ROB ROBERTS

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church
(205) 599-3363 • 5117 First Avenue N. • P.O. Box 101473 • Birmingham, AL 35210

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church
Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor Susan Walker, Director of Music
Clergy in Formation: Andy Mullins, Greg Bullard
Lee Rahe, Tuscaloosa Worship Coordinator

Celebration of the Life of Robert B. Roberts
Friday, September 8, 1995

Prelude: *Don't Cry for Me*

Piano Solo: *Great is Thy Faithfulness* — Ty Thornton

Psalm 100 Marge

One: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth.

Many: Worship God with gladness; come into God's presence with singing.

One: Know that God is Sovereign. It is God that made us,

Many: And we are God's. We are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture.

One: Enter God's gates with thanksgiving and God's courts with praise.

Many: Give thanks to God, and bless God's holy name.

One: For God is good; God's steadfast love endures forever,

Many: And God's faithfulness to all generations.

Opening Prayer Marge

Song: *I Bowed on My Knees and Cried Holy* — Cherie
with Greg A., Randall, Eddie, Mark M.

Reading: *The 23rd Psalm* — Peg

Song: *His Eye Is On the Sparrow* — Eddie

Reading: *Song of Solomon 2: 10-13* — Ty

Song: *Thank You* — Randall

Reading: *1 John 4: 7-12* — Michael B

Song: *If We Never Meet Again* — ~~Mark Moore~~ Debbie T

Reading: *John 14: 1-4* — Mark M

Celebrations of the Life of Rob Roberts

Hymn: *It Is Well With My Soul* — 495

Prayer of Comfort — Rev. Marge Ragona

Benediction — The Choir
Zulu Song (Hal Hopson)

estdale; 3 great-nieces; 3 great-nephews; and a host of friends. Bell Funeral Home in Forestdale directing.

ROBERTS, MR. ROBERT BRANYON age 29, of Bessemer, died Friday, August 25, 1995. He graduated from Hueytown High and Belmont University. He was employed with Compass Bank. Funeral service will be Monday, August 28, 1995, 11:30 a.m. at Brown Service Bessemer with burial in Cedar Hill Cemetery. Visitation was held Sunday, August 27th from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. at the funeral home. Survivors: mother, Doris Wilson of Bessemer; father, Don Roberts of Smokerise; step-father, Dr. George Wilson of Bessemer; step-mother, Sylvia Roberts of Smokerise; sister, Susan Roberts of Birmingham; step-sisters, Leslie Wilson of Alabaster, Alice Greer of Chatanooga, Tenn.; step-brothers, Gran Wilson of Baltimore, Md. and Ken Wilson of Daffne; grandmother, Jeanette Davis of Sante Fe, N. Mex.; step-grandmother, Earline Roberts of Birmingham; a number of aunts, uncles and cousins. Brown Service Bessemer directing.

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Psalm 100 ~~Leader~~ Marge

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One: Know that God is Sovereign. It is God that made us,

Many: And we are God's. We are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture.

One: Enter God's gates with thanksgiving and God's courts with praise.

Many: Give thanks to God, and bless God's holy name.

One: For God is good; God's steadfast love endures forever,

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Benediction — The Choir
Zulu Song (Hal Hopson)

It Is Well with My Soul

Horatio G. Spafford

But God will redeem my soul from the power of death, for He will receive me. —Psalm 49:15

VILLE DU HAVR
Philip P. Bl

1 When peace, like a riv - er, at - tend - eth my way, When sor - rows lik
2 *My sin— O the joy of this glo - ri - ous thought—My sin, not in*
3 And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, The clouds be rolle

1 sea bil-lows roll— What - ev - er my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
2 *part, but the whole, Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more.*
3 back as a scroll: The trump shall re - sound and the Lord shall de - scend

1 It is well, it is well with my soul. It is well
2 *Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!*
3 "E - ven so"— it is well with my soul. It is well

with my soul, with my soul, It is well, it is well with my soul.

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CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF
REV. CLIFFORD P. MORRISON, JR.
June 2, 1994

ORDER OF SERVICE

LEADER: God's steadfast love extends to the heavens.

PEOPLE: God's faithfulness reaches the clouds.

LEADER: O God, how precious is your steadfast love.

PEOPLE: We take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

INVOCATION

PSALM 42 (In unison)

As deer long for the streams, O God
So my soul also seeks your face;
When will my soul, athirst for God,
Appear before the God of grace?

My tears have been my constant food
Poured out before you night and day,
While all day long they say to me,
Where is your God now when you pray"

I pour my soul out when I think
How to God's house I led the throng,
All those who keep the holy days
With voice of prayer and thankful song.

Why, O my soul, are you so full
Of heaviness, why so downcast?
O put your trust in God, my help;
I will give thanks to God at last.

SONG — **Quartet**
"I Bowed on My Knees and Cried 'Holy'"

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES
Old Testament: Isaiah 35: 5-10
Epistle: Revelation 7: 13-17

SONG — **John Hankins**
"Look for me at Jesus' Feet"

READING OF THE GOSPEL
John 14: 1-3

ANTHEM — **CMCC Choir**
"My Eternal God"

EULOGY — **John Hankins**

SONG — **Michael Raines**
"If You Could See Me Now"

WORDS OF COMFORT — **Rev. Marge Ragona**

CLOSING PRAYER — **Rev. Jay Neely**

CLOSING HYMN — **Printed**
"It is Well With My Soul"

BENEDICTION

PALLBEARERS

Darren, Maurice and Jeffrey Whitt
William, Vincent, and Roy Lee McCray

FLOWER BEARERS

Ushers and Friends

INTERMENT

Elmwood Cemetery

MORTICIAN

Davenport and Harris Funeral Home

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We would like to thank each of you who shared kind words, sent flowers, rendered any service and for every kind thoughts. Whatever you did to console our hearts, may God Bless You.

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose."

(Romans 8:28)

Hall Printing Service - 701 19th Street, Ensley, AL - 786-7869

#59

In Loving Memory

of the late

Mr. Gregory Collins

held at

Mount Calvary Baptist Church
2231 - 21st Street North
Birmingham, Alabama 35234

Thursday, October 10, 1991
12:00 NOON

Rev. Gabriel McCray, Officiating
and Rev. Harold McCray

Obituary

Mr. Gregory Collins was born August 22, 1962 to the late Mrs. Joan Collins and Jacob Collins in Birmingham, Alabama.

He confessed Christ in 1985, uniting with Salvation Deliverance Temple, Manhattan, New York, under the leadership of Bishop Bonner. He later joined the East Birmingham Church of God in Christ, Birmingham under the leadership of Elder Peter Wren.

He departed this life Friday, October 4, 1991 at 12:30 p.m.

He leaves to cherish his memories a devoted sister, Cynthia Sturgeon; two grandmothers, Dorothy Ivery, Birmingham, and Millie Webb, Bronx, New York; a great grandmother, Mrs. Rosie McCray; two granfathers, Ernest McCray, Birmingham, and Ralph Webb, Bronx, New York; two nieces, Daphne and Shannon; one nephew, Joel; four aunts, Harriet Thomas and Marsha Fisher, Birmingham, Lucinda McDonald and Fronnie Banks, Bronx, New York; six uncles, Ernest Tyrone, Erskine, Larry, Williams, Vincent McCray, Birmingham, Harold McCray, Omaha, Nebraska; three great uncles, Gabriel, Fred and Arthur McCray; and a host of relatives, saints and friends.

Program

Processional

Selection

Scripture
- Old Testament . . . . . Rev. Gabriel McCray
- New Testament . . . . . Rev. Harold McCray
- Prayer . . . . . Rev. Harold McCray

Selection

Reading of Obituary . . . . . (Silently)

Tribute . . . . . Rev. Harold McCray

Acknowledgements

Eulogy . . . . . Rev. Gabriel McCray

Song

Recessional

PALLBEARERS

Uncles and Friends

FLOWER BEARERS

Friends

INTERMENT

Zion Memorial Garden

MORTICIAN

Roberts-Service Funeral Home
1337 Bessemer Road
Birmingham, AL 35208
(205) 925-5115

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

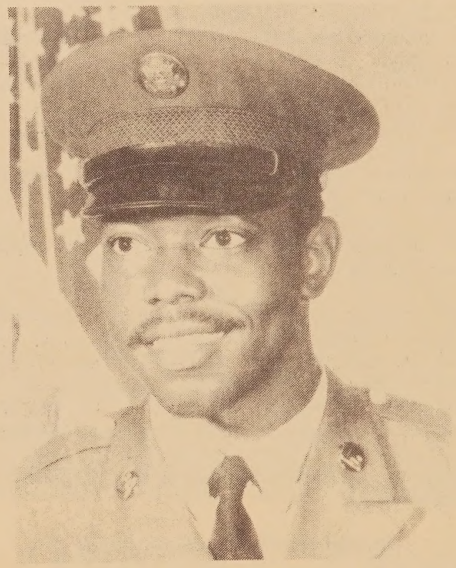
The family of the late Terry Louis Garrett wishes to thank their many friends for kindness shown during their bereavement.

Hall Printing Service - 701 19th Street, Ensley, AL - 786-7869

The Home Going Services

of the late

Brother Terry Louis Garrett



Held At The

Zion Hill Baptist Church
125 - 1st Street S.W.
Birmingham, Alabama

Saturday, April 18, 1992
1:00 P. M.

Reverend Anthony Nabors, Officiating

Obituary

Terry Louis Garrett was born to Louise Garrett on April 23, 1955 in Adamsville, Alabama.

Terry a lovely, loyal and devoted son often attended church with his mother and late grandmother, Mrs. Mamie Garrett.

He attended the Jefferson County and Birmingham Public Schools. Namely: Adamsville Elementary School, Adamsville, Alabama; Center Street, Jr. High; A. H. Parker High School, Birmingham, Alabama; and Jefferson State, Jr. College, Birmingham, Alabama.

He entered the U. S. Army in 1973 and served for thirteen years.

He departed this earthly life on Tuesday, April 14, 1992 at 11:30 A.M.

He leaves to mourn his passing: a loving mother, Mrs. Louise Coats; four uncles and five aunts, Lillian Garrett, Birmingham, AL, Joseph Garrett (Willie N), Brunswick, GA, Willie Garrett (Mary), Akron, OH, Eugene Garrett (Rachael), Clarksville, TN, and Rufus Garrett, Birmingham, AL; a host of cousins and friends.

A special recognition is given to Tim Mitchell for his untiring services.

Guided By The Saviour's Hands

Thank you for showing me through your perseverance God's love.
I was amazed at your courage in all your suffering and I had to feel the comforter was with you from above
As you expressed your thoughts of death awaiting you
I came closer to understanding the gifts of life that I never knew.

You said to me that you had cast out all inferior feelings
For me to obtain such peace sounds so appealing
Your journey toward the end as I pictured it seemed to be taking you through barren lands
But you assured me my friend through your faith that you were never alone, you were being guided by the Savour's hands.
God used you as an instrument for others to be inspired and grow spiritually.
Jesus loves me this I know for the Bible tells me so,
So simple a verse to sing, but so powerful the meaning in my heart - I have kept
Through the truth in your testimonies of your your love of God, this same simplicity and powerful meaning is where you pulled your strength to live, to die, and now live eternally.

Order of Service

Processional

Selection ..... **Choir**

Scriptures ..... **John 3:16**
23 Psalm

Prayer

Selection ..... **Choir**

Tribute to a Friend ..... **Tim Mitchell**

Obituary ..... **Read In Silence**

Eulogy ..... **Rev. Anthony Nabors**

Solo ..... **Randal Foster**

Acknowledgement of Flowers and Cards ..... **Faye Williams**

Recessional

Pallbearers
Family and Friends

Flower Bearers
Ushers and Friends

Interment
Elmwood Cemetery

Final Arrangements Entrusted To
Smith & Gaston Funeral Services, Inc.

Acknowledgement

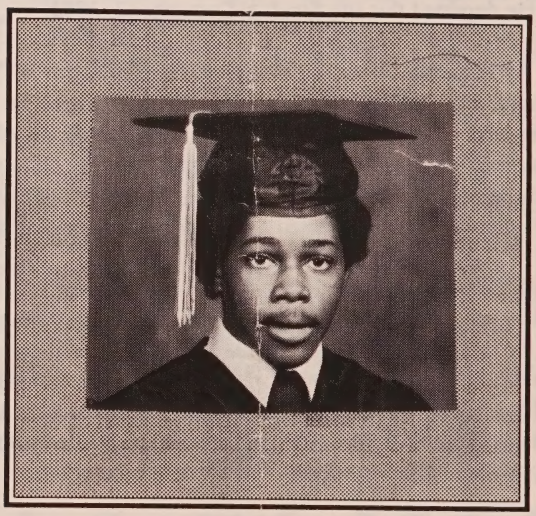
The family of the late **QUINTON C. LAVENDER** expresses deep appreciation and kindness for every act, visit, call, and love gift shown during this hour of grief.

The Family

Prime Typesetting and Design-418 4th Terrace North-Birmingham, AL 35204-(205) 322-5373

#310

Homegoing Celebration
Of The Late



Mr. Quinton C. Lavender

Saturday, December 7, 1991
1:30 P.M.

Smith & Gaston Chapel
(Southside)
Birmingham, Alabama

Obituary

Mr. Quinton C. Lavender was born March 28, 1961 in Birmingham, Alabama to Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Lavender.

He departed this life Sunday, December 1, 1991.

Mr. Quinton Lavender was a graduate of Carol W. Hayes High School and Jefferson State Junior College where he majored in Computer Science. After graduation he obtained employment with National Car Rentals and was employed there for eight years. Presently he was employed with Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Riverchase. He was well liked and respected by his friends and community.

He leaves to mourn and cherish his memory his loving parents, Mrs. Hattie and Mr. Johnnie Lavender, Sr., one brother, Johnny Lavender, Jr., two sisters, Regina and Brenda Lavender all of Birmingham, Alabama, a loving sister-in-law, Mrs. Linda Lavender, Birmingham, Alabama, a special cousin, Ms. Yvonne Edwards, Birmingham, Alabama, a stepparent, Mrs. Winnie Lavender, eight aunts, one uncle, one stepbrother, three stepsisters, and a host of other relatives and friends.

Somebody cares and always will,
The world forgets, but God loves you still.
You cannot go beyond His love,
No matter what you're guilty of.
For God forgives until the end,
He is your faithful, loyal friend.
And though you try to hide your face,
There is no shelter any place.
That can escape His watchful eye
For on earth and in the sky
He's ever present and always there,
To take you in His tender care.

Order of Service

Processional

Solo.....Sister Sandra Robinson

Scripture and Prayer.....Reverend A. H. Felder

Soft Music.....Mr. Willie Jackson

Eulogy.....Reverend A. H. Felder

Recessional

"I Thank God For You Quinton, My Friend"

I constantly remember you in all my prayers, I recall your tears and hurt, we cried together, we prayed together. I recall your smiles trying to hide the pain so that I wouldn't feel pain. God did not leave you, He did not forget you, He guarded you with the Holy Spirit that was in you. God didn't give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, love and self discipline. God joined you with your suffering, He made you stronger in the grace of Christ Jesus. You have a reward of many gifts that God has rightfully given you, so all the joy, pain and sympathy we shared together were not in vain. You didn't envy, you wasn't rude, you wasn't easy to anger, you didn't like evil speaking or evil doing. Now you are at peace because God molded you into what He wanted you to be. When a man's ways please the Lord, he maketh even his enemies be at peace with him. Better is a little righteousness than revenue without right. Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that get an understanding.

Evon

THE COMMENDATION

(The President and other ministers take their places at the ashes.)
The Anthem — Prayer Book 499
(Before the ashes are borne to the grave beside the church, a hymn is sung by all).
Lord of all hopefulness — Slane — Hymnal 482
(The congregation joins the procession and gathers at the grave site.)
Voluntary — Praise to the Lord, the Almighty — J.G. Walther

THE COMMITTAL

(At the conclusion of the burial the following is said:)

Celebrant: Rest eternal grant to him, O Lord.
People: And let light perpetual shine upon him.
Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People: The Lord is risen indeed.Alleluia.
Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People: Thanks be to God.

from a 6th century Roman sarcophagus

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812 Ivy Street - Pittsburgh, PA 15232

#6016

#38

YET EVEN AT THE GRAVE WE MAKE OUR SONG:

ALLELUIA
ALLELUIA · ALLELUIA

THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD
October 28, 1991

MICHAEL JOHN TIPTON
May 17, 1947--October 24, 1991

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
1024 South 12th Street
Birmingham, Alabama

THE ENTRANCE RITE

Voluntary	"Death and resurrection: O death where is thy victory?"	Jean Langlais
Procession and Anthem		Prayer Book 491
Address to Congregation		
The Collect		Prayer Book 493

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

A Reading from the Book of Wisdom		3:1-5,9
Psalm 42:1-7	Tune: Maryton, Hymnal 660	See Insert
A Reading from the Book of Revelation		21:2-7
Sequence Hymn	Joyful joyful	Hymnal 376

The Holy Gospel

Deacon:	The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to John.	6:37-40
People:	Glory to you, Lord Christ	
	(At the Conclusion of the Gospel)	
Deacon:	The Gospel of the Lord.	
People:	Praise to you,Lord Christ.	

Eulogies	By friends
The Apostle's Creed	Prayer Book 496

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Prayers are led, the people respond: Hear us Lord — Prayer Book 497
Prayer may be offered by anyone at the time of silence.

THE PEACE

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory

Celebrant: Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Choir Anthem: Lord, I Trust Thee — G.F. Handel

The Great Thanksgiving	Eucharistic Prayer C	Prayer Book 369
Lift up your hearts		Prayer Book 370
(The Great Thanksgiving continues)		Prayer Book 370

Holy, holy, holy Lord		Hymnal S 127
The Lord's Prayer		Prayer Book 364
The Breaking of the Bread		
Anthem	Be known to us	Hymnal S 171

The Communion

(All baptized Christians are welcome to receive at this altar.)

Communion Hymns

King of glory, King of peace	General Seminary	Hymnal 382
Of the Father's love begotten	Divinum mysterium	Hymnal 82
Postcommunion Prayer		Prayer Book 498

EVERY breath we breathe is a finite number away from the last. They are part and parcel, this breath and our last, the same river that later runs into the sea.

We have been conditioned to see it otherwise. We think, *this* is life and *that* is death. We love and hate and plan and play as if there were no tomorrow in which we won't figure—trying to whistle past that bigger graveyard.

Along came AIDS, death with a different mask, defying us to look away.

Michael J. Farrell

In the time since learning of Michael's death, you probably have reflected on your acquaintance or friendship with him. You may have recalled a special time or event you had shared with him, or something he said to you once that was meaningful. Perhaps you thought of one of his characteristics you really admired. You are invited to share one of these special memories with his family. Write your remembrance on this card and leave it with his family or send it to them. In this way you can help celebrate the joy and friendship Michael gave to many people during his life.

A special remembrance I have of Michael is:

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Name _____

Psalm 42:1-7 L.M.

1. As deer long for the streams, O Lord,
So my soul also seeks your face;
When will my soul, athirst for God,
Appear before the God of grace?

2. My tears have been my constant food
Poured out before you night and day,
While all day long they say to me,
"Where is your God now when you pray?

3. I pour my soul out when I think
How to God's house I led the throng,
All those who keep the holy days
With voice of prayer and thankful song.

4. Why, O my soul, are you so full
Of heaviness, why so downcast?
O put your trust in God, my help;
I will give thanks to him at last.

See Hymn 660 for the music.

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It Is Well with My Soul

Horatio G. Spafford

But God will redeem my soul from the power of death, for He will receive me. —Psalm 49:15

VILLE DU HAVR
Philip P. Bl

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3 And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, The clouds be rolle

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2 *part, but the whole, Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more.*
3 back as a scroll: The trump shall re - sound and the Lord shall de - scend

1 It is well, it is well with my soul. It is well
2 *Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!* It is well
3 "E - ven so"— it is well with my soul.

with my soul, with my soul, It is well, it is well with my soul.

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CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF
REV. CLIFFORD P. MORRISON, JR.
June 2, 1994

ORDER OF SERVICE

LEADER: God's steadfast love extends to the heavens.

PEOPLE: God's faithfulness reaches the clouds.

LEADER: O God, how precious is your steadfast love.

PEOPLE: We take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

INVOCATION

PSALM 42 (In unison)

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So my soul also seeks your face;
When will my soul, athirst for God,
Appear before the God of grace?

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With voice of prayer and thankful song.

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Of heaviness, why so downcast?
O put your trust in God, my help;
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SONG — **Quartet**
"I Bowed on My Knees and Cried 'Holy'"

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES
Old Testament: Isaiah 35: 5-10
Epistle: Revelation 7: 13-17

SONG — **John Hankins**
"Look for me at Jesus' Feet"

READING OF THE GOSPEL
John 14: 1-3

ANTHEM — **CMCC Choir**
"My Eternal God"

EULOGY — **John Hankins**

SONG — **Michael Raines**
"If You Could See Me Now"

WORDS OF COMFORT — **Rev. Marge Ragona**

CLOSING PRAYER — **Rev. Jay Neely**

CLOSING HYMN — **Printed**
"It is Well With My Soul"

BENEDICTION

CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF
SCOT VINCENT BEACH
March 24, 1956 - September 3, 1994

Order of Service
September 6, 1994

Opening Prayer

Eulogy — Bob Axelton

The Voice of Scot Beach

Music

"You Make Me So Very Happy"	To his family
"And Yes, I Love You"	To his mother and father

Hymn: "Higher Ground"

Remembrances of Scot Beach - Family

Music

"I Will Always Love You"	To his family
"Candles in the Rain"	To his friends
"And You Know That I Love You"	To Stan

Remembrances of Scot Beach - Friends and Others

Music

"Spirit in the Sky"	To Everyone
"Remembrance of Me"	A Final Goodbye
"Vincent"	From Stan to Scot

Reading from the Scripture:

The Lord is the everlasting God,
the creator of the ends of the earth.
God does not faint or grow weary;
God's understanding is unsearchable.
God gives power to the faint, and
strengthens the powerless.
Even youths will faint and be weary,
And the young will fall exhausted;
but those who wait upon our God
shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

Prayer of Comfort — Rev. Marge Ragona

Music — By Jim

+ + + + +

God bless you, and happy birthday, Mom and Susie; and an early kiss to Luann.

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF

WIN STAFFORD

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

CELEBRATION OF THE
LIFE OF
WIN STAFFORD

March 20, 1994

CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Praise God in the sanctuary; praise God in the firmament of God's strength.

PEOPLE: Praise God for mighty deeds, for sovereign majesty.

LEADER: Praise God with the blast of the trumpet, with lyre and harp.

PEOPLE: Praise God with timbrel and dance, with strings and pipe.

LEADER: Praise God with the sounding cymbal and the clanging cymbal.

PEOPLE: Let everything that has breath praise God! Alleluia.

OPENING HYMN: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling #21

WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURE:
Old Testament: Isaiah 43: 1-3a
Epistle: Revelation 7: 9-17
New Testament: Matthew 11:28-30

CELEBRATIONS OF THE LIFE OF WIN STAFFORD

WORDS OF COMFORT Rev. Marge Ragona
Psalm 139: 1-18

CLOSING HYMN: Be Still My Soul #77

+ + + + +

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church welcomes you this afternoon, and thanks you for the opportunity to be part of your remembrance of Win Stafford.

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

Evening Worship
August 21,1994
7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP Cliff T.

ONE: Out of the busyness of our worlds,
MANY: **Out of the crankiness and boredom of life-as-usual --**
ONE: Out of the darkness, we have seen a great light.
MANY: **Those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness: On them has light shined.**
ONE: The birth of Jesus calls us to something special.
PEOPLE: **Let our worship be our new beginning.**

++THE OPENING HYMN
"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" 197

THE OPENING PRAYER

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HYMN OF CELEBRATION
"What Child is This?" 180

THE EVENING OFFERING

++THE DOXOLOGY

READINGS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURES
Matthew 1: 18-25
Luke 2:6-7
John 1:12

SPECIAL MUSIC Randall

THE SERMON John Hankins
"A Miracle in Disguise"

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

CHRIST'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION Rev. Marge Ragona
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors will be available for prayer on either side of the altar.

++CLOSING HYMN
"Hark, the Herald Angels Sing! 184

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+ + + + + + + +

WELCOME, VISITORS

We are delighted that you are here worshipping with us this evening! We hope you receive a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we may serve you. Again, WELCOME!!

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

"Healing Grief and Loss"	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

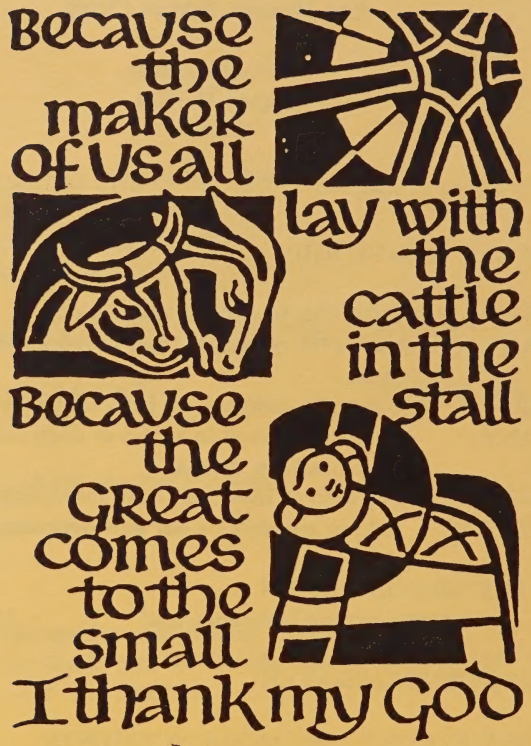
Thanks to everyone who helped with Christmas diuner. It was all delicious and special thanks to the clean-up crew. There will be cake, coffee, soft drinks and other deserts in Familyship Hall following tonight's service.

Monday, August 22, 6: 00 p.m.: Board Personnel Committee Meeting, at the church. 7:30 Deacon/Staff Meeting.

August 26, 27, 28 -- Excel of the Rainbow Zebra Weekend Retreat. Many in leadership will be away. We need all communion servers who are not at Excel to be present next Sunday morning. We may be shorthanded.

Mark your calendar. Covenant Fall Retreat, September 10th, at Cheaha State Park. Plans are underway now. Bring your family, significant other, or a friend. Baptism by immersion, spiritual growth, fun, and a day in the mountains, y'all come!

BAO Food Collection: This Sunday, macaroni and cheese. Next Sunday, Carnation (or other) Instant Breakfast, Ensure Plus, similar products. (Even one can can make a difference.)



cmcc
Covenant Metropolitan Community Churc
(205)599-3363 5117 First Avenue, North · P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 35

C0VENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

+ + + + + +

CHRISTMAS IN AUGUST
August 21, 1994
11:00 a.m.

++CALL TO WORSHIP Ksy

ONE: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth!

MANY: Let us breakforth into joyous songs!

ONE: Christ the Lord is born today.

MANY: O come now in adoration.

++OPENING HYMN
"Angels We Have Heard on High" 192

++OPENING PRAYER John Hankins

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Steve

OUR GIFTS TO GOD Randall

Our Prayer Offerings
Together, let us pray for:
the people of this congregation
those who suffer and those in trouble
the concerns of our community
the world, its peoples, and its leaders
the church universal -- its leaders, its members and its mission...

Our Tithes and Gifts Greg
Offertory

++THE DOXOLOGY

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT Peg

CHILDREN'S CHURCH (First Floor-Familyship Hall)

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES
Isaiah 52: 7-10
Hebrews 1: 1-4
John 1:1-14

ANTHEM The Choir
The Carol of the Bells

THE SERMON
"And the Word was God" Rev. Marge Ragona

THE COLLECT CALL TO CONFESSION
You have opened to us the riches of heaven and the veision of eternal life in the coming of Jesus to be our Savior. Your self-giving is beyond our wildest imagination. But we are people who so easily get caught up in other things. We lose ourselves in the world and count as valuable the things of this earth. Lift our eyes once more to you, where rests our true treasure. Hear now our silent confessions...

CHRIST'S PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON
The good news in Christ is that God offers us life at every moment, forgiving us and inviting us to the freshness of new beginnings. Let us accept forgiveness and praise the God of infinite love and grace.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING John Hankins

Celebrant: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to God.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution

THE MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH
Christ has died.
Christ is risen
Christ will come again.

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT
Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

++THE CLOSING HYMN
"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" Printed

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++CHORAL RESPONSE

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+ + + + +

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Your presence here this morning is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

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TUESDAY

Choir Praise	6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

"Healing Grief and Loss"	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY, SUNDAY, AUGUST 21, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING MORNING SERVICE – CHRISTMAS IN AUGUST. Dinner will be served in the Familyship Hall. Please leave all dishes to share in the Education Building. Please don't bring any food into the sanctuary. Please bring all gifts for the church to the Education Building. Thank you.

Monday, August 22, 6: 00 p.m.: Board Personnel Committee Meeting, at the church. 7:30 Deacon/Staff Meeting.

August 26, 27, 28 -- Excel of the Rainbow Zebra Weekend Retreat. Please ask folks wearing rainbow stoles. There are sign up forms in the foyer. Last call.

Mark your calendar. Covenant Fall Retreat, September 10th, at Cheaha State Park. Plans are underway now. Bring your family, significant other, or a friend. Baptism by immersion, spiritual growth, fun, and a day in the mountains, y'all come!

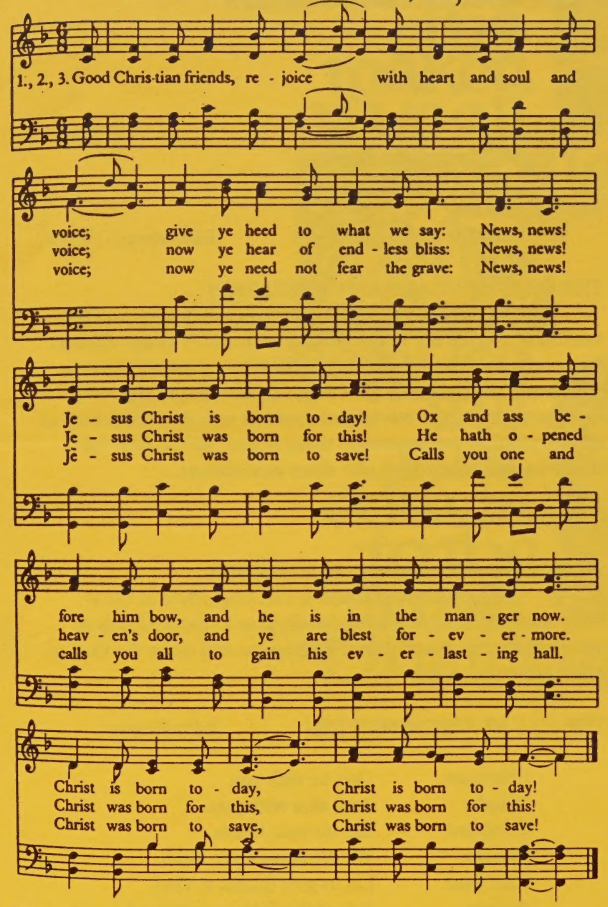
Help Wanted: Adults and teens are needed to help with Children's Church. A man or men are particularly requested. Please see Rev. Marge or Diane.

BAO Food Collection: This Sunday, macaroni and cheese. Next Sunday, Carnation (or other) Instant Breakfast, Ensure Plus, similar products. (Even one can can make a difference.)

All communion servers/intercessors who are **not** going to Excel, please see Rev. Marge.

BIRTH AND BAPTISM

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice 224



WORDS: 14th cent. Latin; trans. by John Mason Neale, 1855
MUSIC: German melody; harm. by Gary Alan Smith, 1988

IN DULCI JUBILO
66.727.78.55

The Nativity (from a 17th Century painting by Georges de la Tour)
©C. E. Visminas

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

(205)599-3363 5117 First Avenue, North P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 35210

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

Evening Worship
August 14,1994
7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP Mark B

ONE: The God of New Beginnings has called us to this place.

MANY: **We come celebrating the new life that is ours as God's faithful people.**

ONE: Let your joy ring through the universe, and let your vision see to the depths of every soul.

MANY: **We will be shouters of joy and seekers of God's light wherever we go. Praise God for this day!**

++THE OPENING HYMN
"The Wonder of It All" 13

++THE OPENING PRAYER

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HYMN OF CELEBRATION
"There's Something About That Name" 227

THE EVENING OFFERING

++THE DOXOLOGY

READINGS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURES
Isaiah 49: 13-16a
I John 4: 7-16
John 17: 20-26

SPECIAL MUSIC

THE SERMON Rev. Marge Ragona
"The Courage to Accept Acceptance"

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION > Marge

CHRIST'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION ~~John Hankins~~ Cliff T
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors will be available for prayer on either side of the altar.

++CLOSING HYMN
"Blessed Assurance" 67

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+ + + + + + + +

WELCOME, VISITORS

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Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	6:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wednesday, August 10, 7:00 p.m.
Study Group: "Healing Grief and Loss"
There are many kinds of losses, family, friends, jobs, homes, and the grief can linger. Death of someone close is the most difficult loss, but all need healing. Come and help heal yourself.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING MORNING SERVICE – CHRISTMAS IN AUGUST .
Gifts are in order! Your church can use paper products (not TP) like hot and cold drink cups, plastic dinner and desert plates, paper towels, napkins. Xerox paper (green, blue, lavender, gold, pink; 8-1/2 x 14), white 8-1/2 x 11, white 11x17). BAO needs 100 bears for its Christmas boxes, some now and some in November would help. (See insert.)

August 26, 27, 28 -- Excel of the Rainbow Zebra Weekend Retreat. Please ask folks wearing rainbow stoles. There are sign up forms in the foyer.

Mark your calendar. Covenant Fall Retreat, September 10th,
at Cheaha State Park. Plans are underway now. Bring your family, significant other, or a friend. Baptism by immersion, spiritual growth, fun, and a day in the mountains, y'all come!

Help Wanted: Adults and teens are needed to help with Children's Church. Please see Rev. Marge or Diane.

BAO Food Collection: This Sunday, beef stew Next Sunday, macaroni and cheese.

mcc
Covenant Metropolitan Community Church
(205)599-3363 5117 First Avenue, North P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 35210

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Associate Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

Evening Worship
July 3, 1994
7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP Mark B.

ONE: We come to hear the story of God's faithfulness to past generations.

MANY: **But we are looking to the future, not the past.**

ONE: Our God is also God of the future; the God who was with people in the past will be with us as well.

MANY: **Then we can go forward in hope. Whatever else fails, God remains faithful.**

ALL: **Nothing can separate us from the love of God! Praise be to God.**

++THE OPENING HYMN
"He Keeps Me Singing" 587

++THE OPENING PRAYER

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HYMN OF CELEBRATION
"Victory in Jesus" 82

THE EVENING OFFERING

++THE DOXOLOGY

READINGS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURES
Isaiah 53:1-6
John 14:5-7
Mark 1: 16-18

SPECIAL MUSIC

THE SERMON Andy Mullins

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

CHRIST'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION Rev. Marge Ragona
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
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Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors will be available for prayer on either side of the altar.

++CLOSING HYMN
"Blessed Assurance" 67

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+ + + + + + + +

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Children's Choir	5:45 p.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	6:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

TUESDAY, July 5, 7:30 p.m.
Council of Ministries Meeting

FRIDAY, JULY 15, 7:00 P.M.
`MARSHA STEVENS, hymn writer and wonderful singer, in concert, here.

Sunday, July 24, Immediately following morning worship. Congregational meeting to vote on calling Rev. Marge Ragona as pastor.

August 26,27. 28 -- EXCEL of the Rainbow Zebra Weekend Retreat. Please ask folks wearing rainbow stoles. There are sign up forms in the foyer.

Please pray for John Hankins who is in Dallas for Orientation to MCC Pastoring.

There will be no Wednesday course until August 3rd, when we will begin a group on "Healing Loss and Grief."

mcc

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy
Greg Bullard, Student Clergy (Huntsville)

Evening Worship
September 25. 1994
7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Because God is on our side,

MANY: We have been saved from despair.

ONE: Our help is in the name of our God.

MANY: Who made heaven and earth.

++THE OPENING HYMN
"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" 319

++THE OPENING PRAYER

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HYMN OF CELEBRATION
"Sweet Hour of Prayer" 439

THE EVENING OFFERING

++THE DOXOLOGY

READINGS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURES
Esther 7:1-10, 9: 20-22
James 5: 13-20
Mark 9: 38-50

SPECIAL MUSIC Dennis

THE SERMON
"For Such a Time As This" Rev. Ragona

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

CHRIST'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
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Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

CLOSING HYMN
"O Zion, Haste, Thy Mission High Fulfilling" 658

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+ + + +

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TUESDAY

Choir Praise	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer) 7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tonight we recognize our clergy and student clergy on Clergy Appreciation Day. Special thanks to John Hankins, who went beyond the call for student clergy during Cliff's illness and served very much as our associate pastor.

Thanks to everyone who made the Installation Service and Reception so very special. To everyone who prepared food or brought deserts, thank you. A special thank you to Bob Tyler for the very beautifully decorated Refreshments will be available in the Fellowship Hall this evening after service.

Remember BAO. This week's need is for Ensure, Instant Breakfast, and other liquid meals. Jesus said, "Inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these, you have done it unto me."

Tonight, beginning at 9:00 p.m., there will be a benefit for BAO at the 22nd Street Jazz Cafe. Everyone is welcome to attend. The door charge is $3.00.

Monday, September 26: Staff/Deacon's Meeting.

Tuesday, September 27: Deacon Training. This special series of classes is open only to deacons, deacons in training and staff.

Saturday, October 1, beginning 10:00 a.m. Budget and Calendar Planning for the next year. If you have an item that will require funding in 1995, or something that needs to be on the calendar, please be at this meeting.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR. October 9th is Fellowship Sunday. This marks the 26th anniversary of the founding of UFMCC. All of the music will be music written by MCC people or for MCC churches and a special offering will be taken for the Fellowship.

God,

grant me the serenity
to accept the things
I cannot change,

the courage to change the things
I can change,

and the wisdom
to know the difference.

Reinhold Niebuhr

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

(205)599-3363 5117 First Avenue, North P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 35210

C0VENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

+ + + + + +

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
August 14, 1994
11:00 a.m.

++CALL TO WORSHIP Cliff T.

ONE: Praise God!

MANY: We give thanks to God with our whole hearts.

ONE: Great are the works of God.

MANY: They are full of honor and majesty.

++OPENING HYMN
"Rock of Ages" 108

++OPENING PRAYER John Hankins

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Allan

OUR GIFTS TO GOD Randall

Our Prayer Offerings
Together, let us pray for:
the people of this congregation
those who suffer and those in trouble
the concerns of our community
the world, its peoples, and its leaders
the church universal -- its leaders, its members and its mission...

Our Tithes and Gifts Allan
Offertory

++THE DOXOLOGY

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT Peg

CHILDREN'S CHURCH (First Floor-Familyship Hall)

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES
Psalm 111
Ephesians 5:15-20
John 6: 51-58

ANTHEM The Choir

THE SERMON John Hankins
"Reclaiming Your Faith"

THE COLLECT CALL TO CONFESSION

We have been called to walk always in your ways and to treat one another with love and respect for your glory. Instead we seem to love what does not last, and we forget that we are in your image. The paths in which we choose to walk lead us to live outside your will, and we do not live a life of thankfulness. But it is always your way to treat us with grace and be merciful to those who are sincerely sorry. As we confess our errors, we pray for your forgiveness. Send your redemption and renew us in our covenant. Hear now our silent confessions...

CHRIST'S PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON

The good news in Christ is that God offers us life at every moment, forgiving us and inviting us to the freshness of new beginnings. Let us accept forgiveness and praise the God of infinite love and grace.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Rev. Marge Ragona

Celebrant: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to God.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution

THE MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH
Christ has died.
Christ is risen
Christ will come again.

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT
Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
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THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

++THE CLOSING HYMN
"Amazing Grace" 107

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++CHORAL RESPONSE

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+ + + + +

WELCOME VISITORS

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THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Help Wanted: Adults and teens are needed to help with Children's Church. Please see Rev. Marge or Diane.

BAO Food Collection: This Sunday, beef stew Next Sunday, macaroni and cheese.

Jesus as the Living Bread (by an African priest – 20th century)

MCC
Covenant Metropolitan Community Church
(205)599-3363 5117 First Avenue, North P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 35210

C0VENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

+ + + + + +

July 31, 1994
6:45 p.m.

SPECIAL SINGSPIRATION Randall F. Lee W.
Wade B. Mark C.
Lisa J. Dennis L.
Eddie M.

++CALL TO WORSHIP Shirley C.

ONE: Open for us the gates of righteousness.

MANY: We will enter and give thanks to God.

One: This is the gate of our God through which we will enter.

MANY: We will enter and give thanks to God.

ALL: This is the day God has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it.

SCRIPTURE: John 14:1-6 Kay

++OPENING HYMN "I'll Fly Away" Printed

++OPENING PRAYER : Cal

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Peg

SCRIPTURE: Luke 12: 35-40 Sharai H.

++HYMN OF CELEBRATION
"When We All Get to Heaven" 123

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 6: 19-21 Hank H.

OFFERING
++DOXOLOGY

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES
Exodus 15: 16-18
I Peter 2: 4-10
John 3: 1-18

SKIT: "Today!"

Archangel Michael	Michael R.
Angel Gabriel	Mark C.
Founder of Faith -Abraham	Mark M.
Gatekeeper - Peter	Eddie S.
Israel's King - David	Rick A.

SPECIAL MUSIC
"The Judgment" Dennis

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION Cliff T.

CHRIST'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.

++THE CLOSING HYMN
"It is Well With My Soul" 495

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION
Revelation 21:1-7 Mark B.

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+ + + + +

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COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Kuyoma, Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

* * * * *

July 31, 1994
6:45 p.m.

SPECIAL SINGSPIRATION	Randall R.	Lee W.
	Wade B.	Mark C.
	Lee J.	Dennis L.
	Eddie M.	
++CALL TO WORSHIP		Shirley C.

ONE: Open for us the gates of righteousness

MANY: We will enter and give thanks to God

One: This is the gate of our God through which we will enter.

MANY: We will enter and give thanks to God

ALL: This is the day God has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it.

SCRIPTURE: John 14:1-6	Kay
++OPENING HYMN "I'll Fly Away"	Trimed
++OPENING PRAYER:	Cal
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS	Peg
SCRIPTURE: Luke 12:35-40	Shami H.
++HYMN OF CELEBRATION "When We All Get to Heaven"	123
SCRIPTURE: Matthew 6:19-21	Hank H.

OFFERING
++DOXOLOGY

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES
Exodus 15:16-18
Hester 2:4-10
John 3:1-18

SKIT: "Today!"

Archangel Michael	Michael R.
Angel Gabriel	Mark C.
Founder of Faith - Abraham	Mark M.
Gatekeeper - Peter	Eddie S.
Israel's King - David	Rick A.

SPECIAL MUSIC
"The Judgment" Dennis

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION Chif T.

CHRIST'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Note: Communion is served with unleaveable grape juice.

++THE CLOSING HYMN
"It is Well With My Soul" 495

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION
Revelation 21:1-7 Mark B.

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

* * * * *

WELCOME VISITORS

Your presence here this evening is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	6:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today, immediately following morning worship
Pot luck dinner celebrating July birthdays.

This evening, Sunday, July 31 - Fifth Sunday Singing We will have an extra long singspiration, beginning at 6:45 and then go into worship with the deacons leading. Be here for a special evening service!

Tuesday, August 2, 7:30 p.m.
Council of Ministries Meeting

Wednesday, August 3, 7:00 p.m.
New Study Group: "Healing Grief and Loss"
There are many kinds of losses, family, friends, jobs, homes, and the grief can linger. Death of someone close is the most difficult loss, but all need healing. Come and help heal yourself.

August 26, 27, 28 -- Excel of the Rainbow Zebra Weekend Retreat. Please ask folks wearing rainbow stoles. There are sign up forms in the foyer.

Mark your calendar. Covenant Fall Retreat, September 10th, at Cheaha State Park. Plans are underway now. Bring your family, significant other, or a friend. Baptism by immersion, spiritual growth, fun, and a day in the mountains, y'all come!

Help Wanted: Adults and teens are needed to help with Children's Church. Please see Rev. Marge or Diane.

GOD IS....

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tonight we recognize our clergy and student clergy on Clergy Appreciation Day. Special thanks to John Hankins, who went beyond the call for student clergy during Cliff's illness and served very much as our associate pastor.

Thanks to everyone who made the Installation Service and Reception so very special. To everyone who prepared food or brought deserts, thank you. A special thank you to Bob Tyler for the very beautifully decorated Refreshments will be available in the Fellowship Hall this evening after service.

Remember BAO. This week's need is for Ensure, Instant Breakfast, and other liquid meals. Jesus said, "Inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these, you have done it unto me."

Tonight, beginning at 9:00 p.m., there will be a benefit for BAO at the 22nd Street Jazz Cafe. Everyone is welcome to attend. The door charge is $3.00.

Monday, September 26: Staff/Deacon's Meeting.

Tuesday, September 27: Deacon Training. This special series of classes is open only to deacons, deacons in training and staff.

Saturday, October 1, beginning 10:00 a.m. Budget and Calendar Planning for the next year. If you have an item that will require funding in 1995, or something that needs to be on the calendar, please be at this meeting.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR. October 9th is Fellowship Sunday. This marks the 26th anniversary of the founding of UFMCC. All of the music will be music written by MCC people or for MCC churches and a special offering will be taken for the Fellowship.

God,

grant me the serenity
to accept the things
I cannot change,

the courage to change the things
I can change,

and the wisdom
to know the difference.

Reinhold Niebuhr

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

(205)599-3363 5117 First Avenue, North P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 35210

STATEMENT OF FAITH

We believe in God, in Jesus Christ, in the Holy Spirit, and in you and in me.
We believe the Holy Spirit has freed us to worship as a community.
We believe the Holy Spirit works through

balloons and ministers
daisies and wiggly children
clanging cymbals and silence
drama and the unexpected
choirs and banners
touching and praying
spontaneity and planning
faith and doubt
tears and laughter
leading and supporting
hugging and kneeling
dancing and stillness
applauding and giving
creativity and plodding
words and listening
holding and letting go
thank you and help me
Scripture and alleluias
agonizing and celebrating
accepting and caring

through you and through me
through Love.

We believe God's Holy Spirit lives in this community of dancing, hand-holding people where lines of age and politics and lifestyles are crossed.
We believe in praising God for Life.
We believe in responding to God's grace and love and justice for all people.
We believe in the poetry within each of us.
We believe in dreams and visions.
We believe in old people running and children leading.
We believe in the Kingdom of God within us.
We believe in Love.

C0VENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Cliff Morrison, Pastor
Rev. Marge Ragona, Associate Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

+ + + + + +

TRINITY SUNDAY
May 29, 1994
7:00 p.m.

SPECIAL SINGSPIRATION Eddie M.
Wade B.
Randall F.
Michael R.

++CALL TO WORSHIP (In unison)

"O clap your hands, all you people. Shout unto God with the voice of triumph. Sing praises to God, sing praises. Sing praises unto our Creator, sing praises. For God is the Creator of all the earth; sing praises with understanding. Clamp your hands, all you people. (From Psalm 47)

++OPENING HYMN
"All Glory, Laud and Honor" 249

++OPENING PRAYER :

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Peg

STATEMENT OF FAITH (See insert)

THE READINGS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURE
I John 3: 16-24
Matthew 10: 40-42

DRAMATIC READING
"Are We Clapping for the Wrong God" Cal, Kay, Shirley
Soloist: Dottie C.

SPECIAL MUSIC
"You're the Only Jesus Some Will Ever See" Dennis

DIALOGUE: "Is The Church Listening?"
Mark B., Gary H., Shirley C.

CALL TO CONFESSION

ONE: O God, we have said that we "love" our sisters and brothers, but we confess it is very difficult to put meaning behind that word.

MANY: We have traded righteousness for success and security, for power and popularity.

ONE: We have said that we "love" our brothers and sisters, but we have not translated that into food, clothing, and housing.

MANY: The good that we would do, we do not; and the bad that we would not do, we do.

ONE: We have said that we "love" God, but if we do not love our sisters and brothers whom we have seen, how can we love God whom we have not seen?

MANY: We confess that there are times when we do not worship the God of Abraham and Sarah, but we worship the approval of others or our own reputations, or our work, or our family, or money. O God, forgive our unfaithfulness. Forgive our following after false gods.

ONE: O God, there are those who thirst for the living water.

MANY: We pray that we may be strong enough to come forward with a cup of cold water for our sisters and brothers.

ONE: In the name of Christ, who ministered unto those in need, we pray the prayer that Christ taught us to pray...

CHRIST'S PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND ABSOLUTION:
God is our refuge and our strength. Though we may sin and fall short of Christ's example, God is always ready to forgive and strengthen us. Hear the good news! Our sins are forgiven! In the name of the creator, and of the Christ, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

THE EVENING OFFERING

OFFERTORY
"Shepherd of My Heart" Rick A.

DOXOLOGY

DRAMATIC READING Kay, Shirley C., Cal

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.

++THE CLOSING HYMN
"They'll Know we are Christians" 677

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+ + + + +

WELCOME VISITORS
Your presence here this evening is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Children's Choir	5:45 p.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Practice	6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Special Study "Healing Abuse" (Separate groups for men and women)	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

This evening we are having a special service brought to you by the Deacons and Deacons in Training. A special offering will be taken for the Community Assistance Fund of the church. This fund helps any of our church members, especially those who are ill, with living expenses.

SATURDAY, JUNE 4

Inquirer's Class	9:00 a.m.
Homosexuality and the Bible Workshop	1:00 p.m.
Picnic and Cookout	5:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, June 5, 1 p.m.

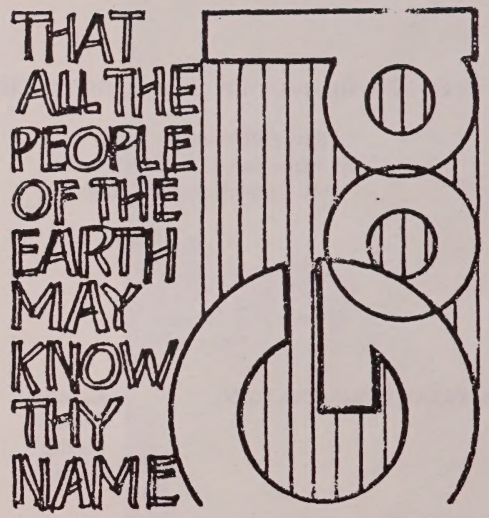
Pride March. Parade starts from Brother Bryan Park.
Stonewall 25/Pride Festival at Caldwell Park follows.

SUNDAY, June 5, 5:30 p.m.

Monthly Youth Meeting

SUNDAY, June 26, 11 a.m.

MARK THIS DATE ON YOUR CALENDAR. The first service at our new location on First Avenue and 51st Street will be the morning service on June 26th. Make a note to yourself of the changed location. Come to church; bring a friend, your lover, or your family!



mcc

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Associate Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

Evening Worship
June 5, 1994
7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP Eddie M.

ONE: Have you ever felt abandoned by God?

MANY: **Yes, Oh, yes.**

ONE: But God says, "I will never forget you."

MANY: **How can this be so?**

ONE: God says, "I have written your name on the palms of my hand."

MANY: **The God who created us, sustains and re-creates us, remembers and calls us.**

ONE: We come, remembering and worshiping God who cares for us.

++THE OPENING HYMN
"Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" 87

++THE OPENING PRAYER

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE EVENING OFFERING

++THE DOXOLOGY

THE READINGS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURES
Psalm 23: 1-4
Psalm 98: 1-6
Matthew 16: 21-23

SPECIAL MUSIC

THE SERMON John Hankins

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

CHRIST'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION Rev. Marge Ragona
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.

++CLOSING HYMN
"Blessed Assurance" 67

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+ + + + + + + +

WELCOME, VISITORS

We are delighted that you are here worshipping with us this evening! We hope you receive a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we may serve you. Again, WELCOME!!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Children's Choir	5:45 p.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Practice	6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Special Study "Healing Abuse" (Separate groups for men and women)	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

MONDAY, 7:00 P.M.
Interfaith Healing Service, Pilgrim Congregational Church, 3801 Montclair Road. (The church with the blue roof.)

TUESDAY, 7:30 P.M.
Council of Ministries Meeting.

SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 11 A.M., 7 P.M.
Our first services at our new location, 5117 First Avenue North.

IMPORTANT: If you have any belongings at the church, please remove them, especially any pots, pans, casseroles and dishes, so we can empty the kitchen and store the kitchen appliances.

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Associate Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

Evening Worship
June 12, 1994
7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP Cal

ONE: God has been acting in our lives and in the world around us this past week.

MANY: **We have come for this hour of worship to make ourselves more aware of God, and to give thanks for God's presence with us.**

ONE: God is here now, ready to strengthen us and to urge us to greater faithfulness.

MANY: **Fill us with your goodness, God. Draw us into your activity in the world that we might fulfill the purpose for which you created us. Amen.**

++THE OPENING HYMN
"Higher Ground" 469

++THE OPENING PRAYER

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE EVENING OFFERING

++THE DOXOLOGY

THE READINGS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURES
Mark 4: 26-29
II Corinthians 4: 14-18
II Timothy 3: 10-17

SPECIAL MUSIC Eddie Merrall

THE SERMON John Hankins

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

CHRIST'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION Rev. Marge Ragona
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
Intercessors will be available for prayer on either side of the altar.

++CLOSING HYMN
"There Shall Be Showers of Blessing" 580

++ OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+ + + + + + + +

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Children's Choir	5:45 p.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Practice	6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Special Study "Healing Abuse" (Separate groups for men and women)	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

The beautiful roses are given by Kay and Shirley for the sixty-fifth birthday of Rev. Marge Ragona. There will be birthday cake following the evening service.

MONDAY, 7:00 P.M.
Board Meeting -- Open to everyone.

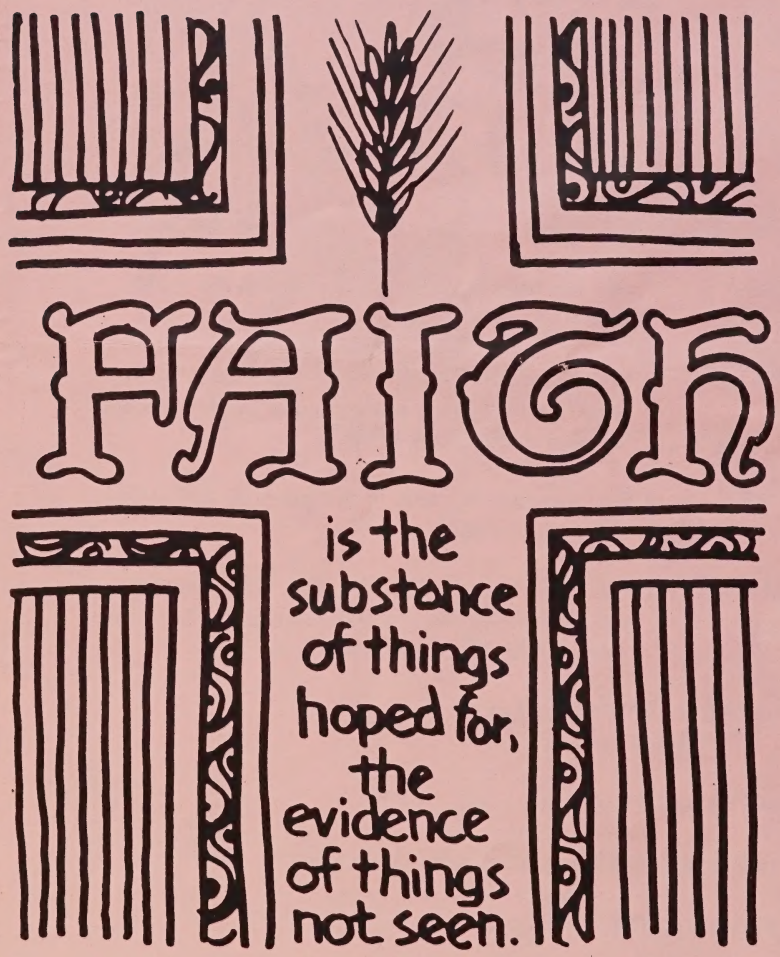
SUNDAY, JUNE 19, both services
BAO Food Drive

SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 11 A.M., 7 P.M.
Our first services at our new location, 5117 First Avenue North at 52nd Street).

IMPORTANT: If you have any belongings at the church, please remove them, especially any pots, pans, casseroles and dishes, so we can empty the kitchen and store the kitchen appliances.

mcc

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church



COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Associate Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

Evening Worship
July 3, 1994
7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP — Mark B.

ONE: We come to hear the story of God's faithfulness to past generations.
MANY: **But we are looking to the future, not the past.**

ONE: Our God is also God of the future; the God who was with people in the past will be with us as well.
MANY: **Then we can go forward in hope. Whatever else fails, God remains faithful.**

ALL: **Nothing can separate us from the love of God! Praise be to God.**

++THE OPENING HYMN
"He Keeps Me Singing" — 587

++THE OPENING PRAYER

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HYMN OF CELEBRATION
"Victory in Jesus" — 82

THE EVENING OFFERING

++THE DOXOLOGY

READINGS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURES
Isaiah 53:1-6
John 14:5-7
Mark 1: 16-18

SPECIAL MUSIC

THE SERMON — Andy Mullins

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

CHRIST'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION — Rev. Marge Ragona
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors will be available for prayer on either side of the altar.

++CLOSING HYMN
"Blessed Assurance" — 67

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+ + + + + + + +

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Children's Choir	5:45 p.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	6:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

TUESDAY, July 5, 7:30 p.m.
Council of Ministries Meeting

FRIDAY, JULY 15, 7:00 P.M.
`MARSHA STEVENS, hymn writer and wonderful singer, in concert, here.

Sunday, July 24, Immediately following morning worship. Congregational meeting to vote on calling Rev. Marge Ragona as pastor.

August 26,27. 28 -- EXCEL of the Rainbow Zebra Weekend Retreat. Please ask folks wearing rainbow stoles. There are sign up forms in the foyer.

Please pray for John Hankins who is in Dallas for Orientation to MCC Pastoring.

There will be no Wednesday course until August 3rd, when we will begin a group on "Healing Loss and Grief."

MCC

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF
Herman Chanove
(July 20, 1956-August 6, 1994)
August 9, 1994

ORDER OF SERVICE

Music: Pachelbel's Canon (George Winston)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Be strong and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for our God. O how abundant is your goodness which you have laid up for those who stand in awe of you and wrought for those who take refuge in you.

OPENING PRAYER **Rev. Marge Ragona**

Music: "Gone Too Soon" (Michael Jackson)

PSALM 27: (In unison)

God is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
God is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
For God will shelter me in the day of trouble; I will be concealed in the cover of God's tent.
God will set me high on a rock.
Hear, O God, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me; Your face, O God, do I seek.
I believe that I shall see the goodness of God in the land of the living.
Wait for God; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for your God!

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES
Revelation 7: 9-17

CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF HERMAN CHANOVE
(Friends and loved ones are welcome to come forward and speak of Herman's life and their relationships with him.)

WORDS OF COMFORT **Rev. Marge Ragona**

CLOSING PRAYER **John Hankins**

Music: "Heal the World"

BENEDICTION

EXTRA EXTRA

By **Mark Brown**

BIRMINGHAM—Covenant MCC has a new way to get food for Birmingham AIDS Outreach.

Beginning in August th Council of Ministries issue a list of food for the BAO pantr week will be a item. The h each p wo

BAO Food Pantry needs high protein foods

Mark your calendars NOW!

Sunday, Aug. 7 ..... Tuna
Sunday, Aug. 14 ..... Beef Stew
Sunday, Aug. 21 ..... Macaroni & Cheese
Sunday, Aug. 28 ... Carnation Instant Breakfast

FOOD BOXES LOCATED IN CHURCH VESTIBULE.

"For the administration of this service not only supplieth the want of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God."

II Corintians 9:12

THE RIGHT HAND OF THE LORD has exercised power has lifted me up+ I shall not die, but live, and shall declare the works of the Lord

mcc
Covenant Metropolitan Community Church
(205)326-8529 3001 Fourth Avenue, South P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 35210

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

Evening Worship
August 7,1994
7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: If God is on our side, who can ever be against us?

ALL: **We are convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Our fears for today, our worries about tomorrow, or where we are -- high above the sky, or in the deepest ocean -- nothing will ever be able to separate us from the love of God.**

++THE OPENING HYMN
"Gentle Shepard" 596

++THE OPENING PRAYER

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HYMN OF CELEBRATION
"My Shepherd Will Supply My Needs" 66

THE EVENING OFFERING

++THE DOXOLOGY

READINGS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURES
Psalm 23
Romans 8: 31-39
John 10: 11-15

SPECIAL MUSIC Steve Calvert
"Because the Lord is my Shepherd" (C. Walker)

THE SERMON Shirley C.
"Dear God, Please Submit a Resume"

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

CHRIST'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION Rev. Marge Ragona
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors will be available for prayer on either side of the altar.

++CLOSING HYMN
"God Will Take Care of You" 56

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+ + + + + + + +

WELCOME, VISITORS

We are delighted that you are here worshipping with us this evening! We hope you receive a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we may serve you. Again, WELCOME!!

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	6:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Monday, August 8, 7:00 p.m.
Board Meeting

Tuesday, August 9, 7:30 p.m.
Memorial Service for Herman Chanove.

Wednesday, August 10, 7:00 p.m.
Study Group: "Healing Grief and Loss"
There are many kinds of losses, family, friends, jobs, homes, and the grief can linger. Death of someone close is the most difficult loss, but all need healing. Come and help heal yourself.

Saturday, August 13, 10-3
Inquirer's Class. You do not have to commit to be a member if you take the class, but you must have the class in order to become a member.
1-3 p.m. Homosexuality and the Bible.

August 26, 27, 28 -- Excel of the Rainbow Zebra Weekend Retreat. Please ask folks wearing rainbow stoles. There are sign up forms in the foyer.

Mark your calendar. Covenant Fall Retreat, September 10th,
at Cheaha State Park. Plans are underway now. Bring your family, significant other, or a friend. Baptism by immersion, spiritual growth, fun, and a day in the mountains, y'all come!

Help Wanted: Adults and teens are needed to help with Children's Church. Please see Rev. Marge or Diane.

BAO Food Collection: This Sunday, canned tuna fish. Next Sunday, beef stew.

A 20th century illustration of Jesus as the Good Shepherd, from India

mcc
Covenant Metropolitan Community Church
(205)599-3363 5117 First Avenue, North P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 35210

Be Thou My Vision

Unison

1. Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2. Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3. Great God of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

naught be all else to me, save that thou art.
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

C0VENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Cliff Morrison, Pastor
Rev. Marge Ragona, Associate Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

+ + + + + +

TRINITY SUNDAY
May 29, 1994
11:00 a.m.

++CALL TO WORSHIP Mark B.

ONE: Let us gather with the faithful in worshiping the God made known to us in Jesus Christ.
MANY: To God, the ruler of the universe, and to Jesus, along with the Holy Spirit, be blessing and honor, glory and might forever and ever.
ONE: Let us gather in God's presence, singing songs of praise and joy with the people of God in every place and time.
MANY: Holy, holy, holy, great God of Hosts! The whole earth is full of your glory. Glory be to you, O God most high.

++OPENING HYMN
Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty 323

++OPENING PRAYER Rev. Ragona

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENT Mark M.

SPECIAL MUSIC Barry and Dottie
"Can You Reach My Friend?"

OUR GIFTS TO GOD
Our Prayer Offerings
Together, let us pray for:
the people of this congregation
those who suffer and those in trouble
the concerns of our community
the world, its peoples, and its leaders
the church universal -- its leaders, its members and its mission...

Our Tithes and Gifts
Offertory

++THE DOXOLOGY

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT Peg

CHILDREN'S CHURCH (in the Familyship Hall)

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES
Isaiah 6: 1-8
Romans 8: 14-17
John 3: 1-17

ANTHEM The Choir

THE SERMON Deacon Candidate Cliff T.

THE COLLECT CALL TO CONFESSION
O God, we confess that we have not acknowledged you as the source of our successes, our substance, our selves. We have been far more ready to complain when things go wrong. Often we feed our bodies, but forget to feed our souls. Forgive us, compassionate God, and grant us each day an opportunity to start over. Keep us from repeating the mistakes of the past or from new evils that could mislead or destroy. In the name of Christ, we ask you to hear now our silent prayers for pardon...

CHRIST'S PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON
God hears our cries and forgives all who are penitent and believing. God provides the resources for our rescue and redemption. Whoever trusts God will not be disappointed. Whoever reaches out to others in the Spirit of Christ will know the joy of God's love. You are forgiven. You are accepted. You are loved. Share these gifts.

The Great Thanksgiving Rev. Ragona

Celebrant: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to God.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution

THE MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH
Christ has died.
Christ is risen
Christ will come again.

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.

++THE CLOSING HYMN
"Be Thou My Vision" Printed

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++CHORAL RESPONSE

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+ + + + +

WELCOME VISITORS
Your presence here this morning is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Children's Choir	5:45 p.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Practice	6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Special Study "Healing Abuse" (Separate groups for men and women)	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

All services today feature our Deacons and our Deacons in training. The service this evening will be a special service in place of our usual Fifth Sunday singing. There will be a special Singspiration beginning at 6:40 which will feature many of our favorite Fifth Sunday singers. Plan to come and enjoy.

Special second offerings will be taken at both services for the Community Assistance Fund, which is administered by the Deacons. This fund assists church members, especially those who are ill.

SATURDAY, JUNE 4

Inquirer's Class	9:00 a.m.
Homosexuality and the Bible Workshop	1:00 p.m.
Picnic and Cookout	5:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, June 5, 1 p.m.
Pride March. Parade starts from Brother Bryan Park. Stonewall 25/Pride Festival at Caldwell Park follows.

SUNDAY, June 5, 5:30 p.m.
Monthly youth meeting

SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 11:00 A.M.
MARK THIS DATE ON YOUR CALENDAR. The first service at our new location on First Avenue and 51st Street will be the morning service on June 26th. Make a note to yourself of the changed location. Come to church; bring a friend, your lover, and your family!

The Trinity

mcc
Covenant Metropolitan Community Church
(205)326-8529 · 3001 Fourth Avenue, South P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 35210

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Cliff Morrison, Pastor
Rev. Marge Ragona, Associate Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

+ + + + + +

Ascension Sunday
May 15, 1994
11:00 a.m.

CALL TO WORSHIP Mark B.

ONE: Sing praises to God, sing praises!

MANY: Sing praises to the One who reigns, sing praises!

ONE: For God reigns over all the nations;

MANY: Sing praises with a psalm! Alleluia.

OPENING HYMN
"All Hail the Power of Jesus Name" 325

++OPENING PRAYER

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Mark M.

BLESSING OF THE PRAYER BEARS

SPECIAL MUSIC Dennis

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

SILENT REQUESTS

Our Prayer Offerings
Together, let us pray for:
the people of this congregation
those who suffer and those in trouble
the concerns of our community
the world, its peoples, and its leaders
the church universal -- its leaders, its members and its mission...

Our Tithes and Gifts
Offertory

++THE DOXOLOGY

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT Peg

CHILDREN'S CHURCH (in the Familyship Hall)

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES
Acts 1: 6-11
Ephesians 1: 15-23
Luke 24: 44-52

ANTHEM The Choir

THE SERMON Rev. Marge Ragona
Why Are You Looking At the Sky?

THE COLLECT CALL TO CONFESSION
God, we have heard the promise that we would not be left alone, yet we so often act as if we believe that we must depend only upon ourselves. Time and again we seek to follow our own ways and fail to hear your sustaining word. By the gift of your Holy Spirit open to us afresh the words of Scripture that we might be strengthened in our faith and given a mind to spread the good news of Jesus' place in glory with all the world. Let us not stand looking into heaven for Jesus' return, but rather to work for the fulfillment of his promises here on earth, until he comes again. Hear now our silent confessions...

CHRIST'S PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON
It is with great joy that God grants us new life and forgiveness of our sins. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven by grace. With great joy, we are made alive. Thanks be to God. Amen..

The Great Thanksgiving **John Hankins**

Celebrant: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to God.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution

THE MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH
Christ has died.
Christ is risen
Christ will come again.

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.

++THE CLOSING HYMN
Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun 238

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++CHORAL RESPONSE

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+ + + + +

WELCOME VISITORS
Your presence here this morning is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

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Sunday School for children and adults	10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Children's Choir	5:45 p.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Youth Meeting	5:30 p.m
Choir Practice	6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Special Study "Healing Abuse" (Separate groups for men and women)	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today we are rounding up Prayer Bears. Please keep your bear until all the bears have been blessed in the worship service.

MONDAY, May 16. 23, 7:00 p.m.

Inquirer's Classes. These classes are required if you want to join the church, but don't feel you must join if you attend; they are open to everyone!

SUNDAY, May 22 - I M P O R T A N T

Congregational Meeting about potential move to the Birmingham Wedding Chapel. Please be present, your vote counts in the future of your church.

SATURDAY, JUNE 4

Homosexuality and the Bible Workshop	1:00 p.m.
Picnic and Cookout	5:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, June 5, 1 p.m.

Pride March. Parade starts from Brother Bryan Park. Stonewall 25/Pride Festival at Caldwell Park follows.

The Ascension (from 20th century China)

mcc

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

(205)326-8529 · 3001 Fourth Avenue, South P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 3521

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Cliff Morrison, Pastor
Rev. Marge Ragona, Associate Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

Evening Worship
May 15, 1994
7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP Eddie

ONE: The Spirit blows life through us all.

MANY: **We gather in the renewing life the Spirit gives to us.**

ONE: Let us worship with great joy, and celebrate the new life among us.

MANY: **We bring praise and song, joy and laughter before God! Let the world hear our praises!**

++THE OPENING HYMN
"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" 21

++THE OPENING PRAYER

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPECIAL MUSIC YOUTH CHOIR

THE EVENING OFFERING

++THE DOXOLOGY

THE READINGS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURES
I Corinthians 12:5-11
II Corinthians 3: 6
John 3: 6-8

SPECIAL MUSIC McKinnon

THE SERMON John Hankins
"Let the Wind Blow"

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

CHRIST'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION Rev. Marge Ragona
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.

++CLOSING HYMN
"I Need Thee Every Hour" 443

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+ + + + + + + +

WELCOME, VISITORS

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Children's Choir	5:45 p.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Practice	6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Special Study "Healing Abuse" (Separate groups for men and women)	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today we held our congregational meeting, and it was the overwhelming vote of the church to move to the Birmingham Wedding Chapel on 52nd Street and First Avenue North. Our first service at that location will be June 26th, 11 a.m.

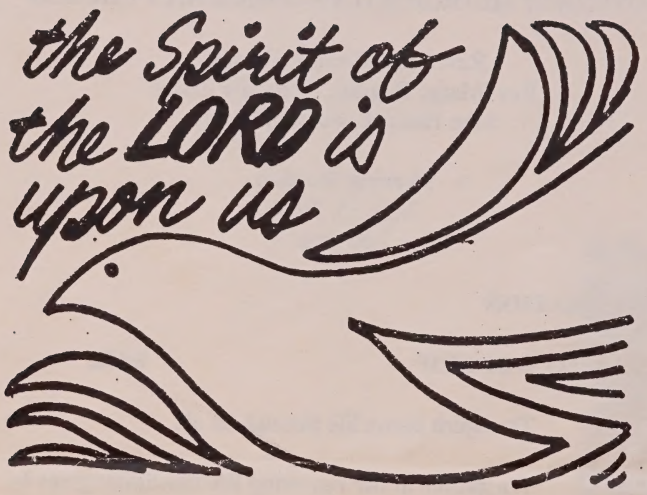
MONDAY, May 23, 7:00 p.m.
Inquirers' Classes. These classes are required if you want to join the church, but don't feel you must join if you attend; they are open to everyone!

MONDAY, May 23, 7:00 p.m.
Deacons' Training.

SATURDAY, JUNE 4

Inquirers' Class	9:00 a.m.
Homosexuality and the Bible Workshop	1:00 p.m.
Picnic and Cookout	5:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, June 5, 1 p.m.
Pride March. Parade starts from Brother Bryan Park.
Stonewall 25/Pride Festival at Caldwell Park follows.



RECEIVE THE GIFT

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Cliff Morrison, Pastor
Rev. Marge Ragona, Associate Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

+ + + + + + + + + +

Morning Worship
Sunday, April 17, 1994
11:00 a.m.

++THE CALL TO WORSHIP Eddie

Pastor: Answer me when I call, O God.

PEOPLE: You gave me room when I was in distress.

Pastor: Be gracious to me and hear my prayer.

PEOPLE: Know that God has set apart the faithful.

Pastor: God hears when I call.

PEOPLE: Let the light of your face shine on us, O God.

ALL: You have put gladness in my heart, I trust in you, O God.

++OPENING HYMN: "We Are God's People" 546

++OPENING PRAYER **John Hankins**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPECIAL MUSIC **Barry**

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Our Prayer Offerings Lisa ~~Randall~~

Together, let us pray for:
the people of this congregation
those who suffer and those in trouble
the concerns of our community
the world, its peoples, and its leaders
the church universal -- its leaders, its members, and its mission...

Our Tithes and Gifts Jimmy
offertory Choir

++THE DOXOLOGY

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT **Peg**

CHILDREN'S CHURCH (In the Familyship Hall)

READING FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURES
Acts 3: 12-19
I John 3: 1-7
Luke 24: 36b-48

THE SERMON **Rev. Marge Ragona**
"On the Road"

THE COLLECT CALL TO CONFESSION
Almighty God, the author of salvation by grace, we thank you for your endless patience with us. We are aware of our weakness and troubled by our guilt. Our faith is not always strong and our fears make us feeble. Give us strength. Arouse us by your love. Turn our hands to compassion, our minds to reason, our hearts to trust. Forgive us, O God, and hear our silent confessions...

CHRIST'S PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND ABSOLUTION

COMMUNION HYMN: "He's the Savior of My Soul 247

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING **John Hankins**

CELEBRANT: God be with you.
PEOPLE: And also with you.
CELEBRANT: Lift up your hearts.
PEOPLE: We lift them up to God.
CELEBRANT: Let us give thanks to God.
PEOPLE: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution

THE MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.

++THE CLOSING HYMN: "Blessed Assurance" 67

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION Marge

++CHORAL RESPONSE

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+ + + + + + +

WELCOME VISITORS

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Children's Choir	5:45 p.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Practice	6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Youth Meeting	5:30 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Cliff Morrison has been hospitalized since Thursday evening. Please keep him in your prayers. This hospitalization is not particularly serious, but he sends his greetings and love to you all.

CHANGES, CHANGES
Please carefully note the changes in the order of worship this morning. We are endeavoring to streamline the service, as well as supply more variety from time to time. Nothing is being set in stone, and we value your input.

FRIDAY, APRIL 29-SUNDAY, MAY 1.
G.L.A.D. District Conference in Kingsport, Tennessee.

FRIDAY, MAY 6 , 7 p.m.
Rev. Delores Berry -- Don't miss this dynamic singer and evangelist.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11 -- "Healing Abuse."
Rev. Marge Ragona will teach this important new study course, which will continue each Wednesday evening for six weeks.

mcc
Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

REG

SUNDAY:
Sunday School fo
Morning Worship
Children's Choir
Evening Worship

TUESDAY:
Choir Practice

THURSDAY:
Bible Study (map

SPE

MONDAY:
Board Meeting

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CHANGES, CHANG
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FRIDAY, April 29-SU
G.L.A.D. Conferer

FRIDAY, MAY 6
Rev. Delores Berr

WEDNESDAY, MAY
"Healing Abuse"
Rev. Marge wil
which will continu

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Cliff Morrison, Pastor
Rev. Marge Ragona, Associate Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

ORDER OF WORSHIP
SUNDAY, APRIL 10, 1994
EVENING SERVICE

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SINGSPIRATION — Mark C.

THE CALL TO WORSHIP — Pastor Cliff Morrison

PASTOR: Put away your cares.
PEOPLE: PUT AWAY YOUR YOUR ANXIETIES.
PASTOR: God has not forsaken us.
PEOPLE: GOD HAS NOT FORGOTTEN US.
PASTOR: Could a mother forget a child that she has nurtured?
PEOPLE: NEITHER WILL GOD FORGET US.
PASTOR: We are imprinted in the palms of God's hands. God is with us.
ALL: GOD IS WITH US.

++THE OPENING HYMN — #634
"O, HOW I LOVE JESUS"

++THE OPENING PRAYER — John Hankins

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SOLO — Wade
"PAID IN FULL"

THE EVENING OFFERING — Jimmy

++THE DOXOLOGY

THE READINGS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURES
++John 16:21-24
++Luke 12:32-34
++Matthew 11:28-30

THE SPECIAL MUSIC — Hank
"JESUS NEVER FAILS"

THE SERMON — John Hankins
"TREASURES"

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION — Pastor Cliff Morrison

CHRIST'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION — Pastor Cliff Morrison
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

NOTE: Communion is served with non-alcoholic grape juice.

++THE CLOSING HYMN — #646
"REDEEMED"

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++THE PASSING OF PEACE

+ + + + + + + + + + + +

WELCOME VISITORS!!!

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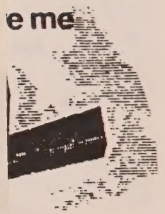

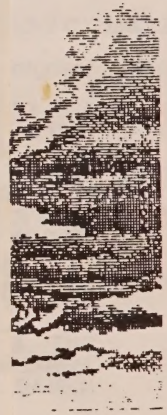

nunity Church

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY:

Sunday School for children and adults	10:00 AM
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 AM
Children's Choir	5:45 PM
Evening Worship and Praise	7:00 PM

TUESDAY:

Choir Practice	6:00 PM

THURSDAY:

Bible Study (maps are available in the vestibule)	7:00 PM

SPECIAL EVENTS THIS WEEK

MONDAY:

Building and Grounds Committee Meeting	6:00 PM
Board Meeting	7:00 PM

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

FRIDAY, APRIL 29 - SUNDAY, MAY 1
G.L.A.D. Conference in Kingsport, Tennessee

FRIDAY, MAY 6
Rev. Delores Berry — 7:00 PM
DON'T MISS THIS ONE!
(Pot luck dinner to follow)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11
"Healing Abuse" — 7:00 PM
Rev. Marge will teach this important new study course which will continue each Wednesday evening for six weeks.

ISAIAH 40: 14-16

..."Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you!"...

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY:

Sunday School for children and adults	10:00 AM
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 AM
Children's Choir	5:45 PM
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 PM

TUESDAY:

Choir Practice	6:00 PM

THURSDAY:

Bible Study (maps are available in the vestibule)	7:00 PM

SPECIAL EVENTS THIS WEEK

MONDAY:

Board Meeting	7:00 PM

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHANGES, CHANGES!!

Please carefully note the changes in our order of worship this morning. We are endeavoring to better streamline the service as well as supply more variety from time to time. Nothing is being set in stone and you input is certainly welcome.

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FRIDAY, MAY 6

Rev. Delores Berry 7:00 PM

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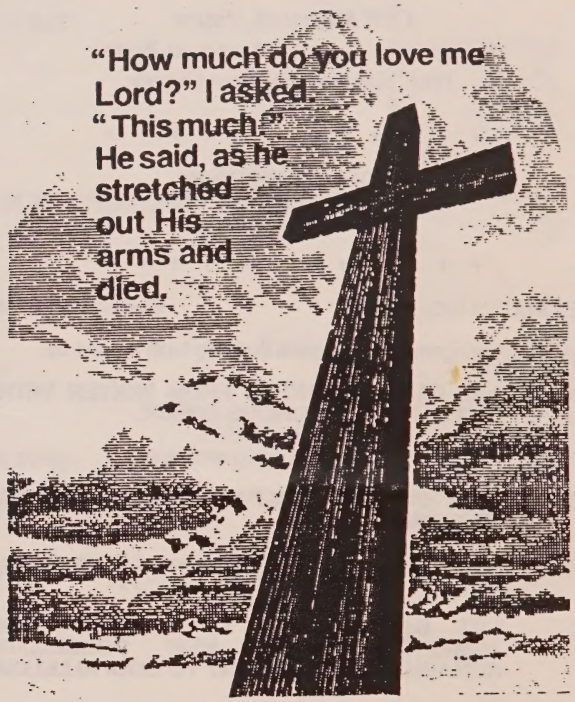

cmcc

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

Cliff Morrison, Pastor
Rev. Marge Ragona, Associate Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

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ORDER OF WORSHIP
SUNDAY, APRIL 10, 1994
MORNING SERVICE

+ + + + + + + + + + + + +

THE CALL TO WORSHIP Pastor Cliff Morrison

PASTOR: Springtime changes are bursting forth around us.

PEOPLE: **THE EARTH AWAKENS FROM WINTER WITH A DISPLAY OF WONDROUS COLOR.**

PASTOR: The cycle of living and dying continues.

PEOPLE: **AS IT HAS FOR AGES PAST AND WILL FOR AGES TO COME.**

PASTOR: Lent has passed and the celebration of Easter Sunday is over.

ALL: **BUT THE MESSAGE OF NEW LIFE, NEW AWAKENINGS, AND NEW POSSIBILITIES REMAINS WITH US. GLORY TO GOD! ALLELUIA!**

++THE OPENING HYMN #223

"I STAND AMAZED"

++THE OPENING PRAYER John Hankins

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE ANTHEM Choir

"THE OVERFLOWING VESSEL"

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Our Prayer Offerings Randall

Together, let us pray for:
the people of this congregation
those who suffer and those in trouble
the concerns of our community
the world, its peoples, and its leaders
the church universal - its leaders, its members, and its mission...

Our Tithes and Gifts Jimmy

++THE DOXOLOGY (see back of hymnal)

CHILDREN'S CHURCH (in the Familyship Hall)

THE READINGS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURES
Jeremiah 29:10-12
Romans 7:21-25
++John 20:27-29

SOLO Randall

"AMAZING GRACE/HE CAME TO ME"

THE SERMON John Hankins

"BACK TO THE TOMB"

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Pastor Cliff Morrison

CELEBRANT: God be with you.
PEOPLE: **AND ALSO WITH YOU.**
CELEBRANT: Lift up your hearts.
PEOPLE: **WE LIFT THEM UP UNTO GOD.**
CELEBRANT: Let us give thanks to God.
PEOPLE: **IT IS RIGHT TO GIVE GOD THANKS AND PRAISE.**

THE COLLECT CALL TO CONFESSION

Almighty and eternal God, we thank you that you have not left us alone in our sin and despair. Loving us, you have brought us good news and set before us the way of Life. Yet we confess that we have often failed to see the way. Forgive us, O God, and hear our silent confessions...

CHRIST'S PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND ABSOLUTION

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution

THE MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH: CHRIST HAS DIED. CHRIST IS RISEN. CHRIST WILL COME AGAIN.

Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

NOTE: Communion is served with non-alcoholic grape juice.

++THE CLOSING HYMN #96

"I KNOW WHO HOLDS TOMORROW"

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION John Hankins

++CHORAL RESPONSE

++THE PASSING OF PEACE

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WELCOME VISITORS!!!

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COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Cliff Morrison, Pastor
Rev. Marge Ragona, Associate Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

ORDER OF WORSHIP
SUNDAY, MARCH 13, 1994
FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
EVENING SERVICE

+ + + + + + + + + + + +

SINGSPIRATION

THE CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Marge Ragona

PASTOR: We have gathered as children of God's promise, to keep alive our vision of hope.
PEOPLE: WE HAVE GATHERED ON THE MOUNTAINTOP, THAT WE MAY BE STRENGTHENED TO LIVE AS GOD'S CHILDREN IN THE VALLEYS OF EVERYDAY LIFE.
PASTOR: We are on a pilgrimage of love and hope.
PEOPLE: WE FOLLOW THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS CHRIST, WHO WAS FAITHFUL BECAUSE OF GOD'S PROMISE.
PASTOR: Let us pause on our journeys;
ALL: LET US BUILD A ROADSIDE ALTAR, NOT OF STONES BUT OF PRAISE, TO THE GOD WHO GUIDES US. AMEN.

++THE OPENING HYMN (see insert)
"I'LL FLY AWAY"

++THE OPENING PRAYER Pastor Cliff Morrison

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

DRAMATIC READING Mark C. and Greg
"JUDAS AND MATTHEW"

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION Rev. Marge Ragona

CHRIST'S PRAYER

++THE HYMN OF CELEBRATION #159
"SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT"

THE EVENING OFFERING

++THE DOXOLOGY

THE READINGS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURES
I Chronicles 17:26-27
I Corinthians 2:9-10
++Luke 14:12-14

THE SPECIAL MUSIC Randall
"HEAL ME"

THE SERMON John Hankins
"A SHEPHERD OR KING"

PASTORAL PRAYER

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION Pastor Cliff Morrison
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

NOTE: Communion is served with non-alcoholic grape juice.

++THE CLOSING HYMN #82
"VICTORY IN JESUS"

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION John Hankins

++THE PASSING OF PEACE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY:	
Sunday School for children and adults	10:00 AM
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 AM
Children's Choir	5:45 PM
Evening Worship and Praise	7:00 PM
TUESDAY:	
Choir Practice	6:00 PM
WEDNESDAY:	
New Testament Study Series	7:00 PM
THURSDAY:	
Bible Study (maps are available in the vestibule)	7:00 PM

SPECIAL EVENTS THIS WEEK

MONDAY:	
Board Meeting	7:00 PM
TUESDAY:	
Communion Training for anyone who is interested	7:45 PM
WEDNESDAY:	
Youth Meeting	5:30 PM
NEXT SUNDAY:	
Evangelism Team Meeting	1:00 PM
(All are welcome to work with evangelism)	

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

HELP!!

We have two particular needs at present. One is **Evangelism Team members** to assist in outreach through our special events and other things. The second is a **sound system operator**. This is not a difficult job but needs someone who knows something about sound operation and will be able to be here at all worship services or train someone else to share duties. Be in prayer about both of these.

Jesus Said,

Feed My Sheep

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Cliff Morrison, Pastor
Rev. Marge Ragona, Associate Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

ORDER OF WORSHIP
SUNDAY. MARCH 20, 1994
THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT
EVENING SERVICE

+ + + + + + + + + + + +

SINGSPIRATION

THE CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Marge Ragona

PASTOR: We gather as pilgrims on a journey of faith.
PEOPLE: WE COME SEEKING THE AWARENESS OF GOD'S PRESENCE AS WE TRAVEL ON.
PASTOR: We come seeking light for our darkness, strength in our weakness.
ALL: SHINE IN OUR HEARTS, O GOD, WITH THE LIGHT OF YOUR LOVE. MAKE YOUR PRESENCE KNOWN THROUGH JESUS THE CHRIST. AMEN.

++THE OPENING HYMN #325
"ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS' NAME"

++THE OPENING PRAYER Pastor Cliff Morrison

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINI DRAMA Kathy
"JOANNA, WIFE OF CHUZA"

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION Rev. Marge Ragona

CHRIST'S PRAYER

++THE HYMN OF CELEBRATION #415
"AT CALVARY

THE EVENING OFFERING Allan

THE OFFERTORY SOLO Mark
"1955"

++THE DOXOLOGY

THE READING FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURES
II Corinthians 4:16-5:1

THE SPECIAL MUSIC Randall
"WHEN JESUS PASSED BY"

THE SERMON Pastor Cliff Morrison
"THE FORCE"

PASTORAL PRAYER

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION Rev. Marge Ragona
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

NOTE: Communion is served with non-alcoholic grape juice.

++THE CLOSING HYMN #292
"BECAUSE CHRIST LIVES"

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION Pastor Cliff Morrison

++THE PASSING OF PEACE

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SUNDAY:

Sunday School for children and adults	10:00 AM
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 AM
Children's Choir	5:45 PM
Evening Worship and Praise	7:00 PM

TUESDAY:

Choir Practice	6:00 PM

WEDNESDAY:

New Testament Study Series	7:00 PM

THURSDAY:

Bible Study (maps are available in the vestibule)	7:00 PM

SPECIAL EVENTS THIS WEEK

MONDAY:

Finance Committee Meeting	6:00 PM
BAO Prayer Service at Pilgrim Congregational Church	7:30 PM

(NOTE: Deacon training tonight will be a field trip to this service. (We will have the opportunity to meet Malcolm Marler, the new chaplain at the 1917 Clinic. He will be bringing the message.)

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

COVENANT METROPOLITAN
COMMUNITY CHURCH

Cliff Morrison, Pastor
Rev. Marge Ragona, Associate Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

ORDER OF WORSHIP
SUNDAY, MARCH 27, 1994
PALM SUNDAY/PASSION SUNDAY
EVENING SERVICE

+ + + + + + + + + + + +

SINGSPIRATION

THE CALL TO WORSHIP Eddie S.
"WERE YOU THERE?"

++THE OPENING HYMN #16
"TELL ME THE OLD, OLD, STORY"

++THE OPENING PRAYER Rev. Marge Ragona

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION Pastor Cliff Morrison

CHRIST'S PRAYER

++THE HYMN OF CELEBRATION #223
"I STAND AMAZED IN THE PRESENCE"

THE EVENING OFFERING Lisa

++THE DOXOLOGY

THE READINGS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURES
Isaiah 50:4-9a
++Mark 15:1-39

THE SPECIAL MUSIC Greg
"THIS BLOOD'S FOR YOU"

THE SERMON Rev. Marge Ragona
"HUMBLED TO BE EXALTED"

PRAYER IN SONG Randall
"RISE AGAIN"

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION Pastor Cliff Morrison
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

NOTE: Communion is served with non-alcoholic grape juice.

++THE CLOSING HYMN #251
"IN THE CROSS OF CHRIST I GLORY"

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION Rev. Marge Ragona

++THE PASSING OF PEACE

+ + + + + + + + + + + +

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WEDNESDAY:

New Testament Study Series	7:00 PM

THURSDAY:

Bible Study (maps are available in the vestibule) 7:00 PM

SPECIAL EVENTS THIS WEEK

TONIGHT:

Bake-Off sponsored by our youth immediately following this service.

THURSDAY:

Maundy Thursday Seder Service and Feast 7:00 PM
(NOTE: If you plan on coming you must sign up so we can prepare properly for this fery special evening. Seating is limited to 40 people.)

FRIDAY:

Good Friday Tenebrae Service 7:00 PM
(Something new for us and very special!)

SATURDAY:

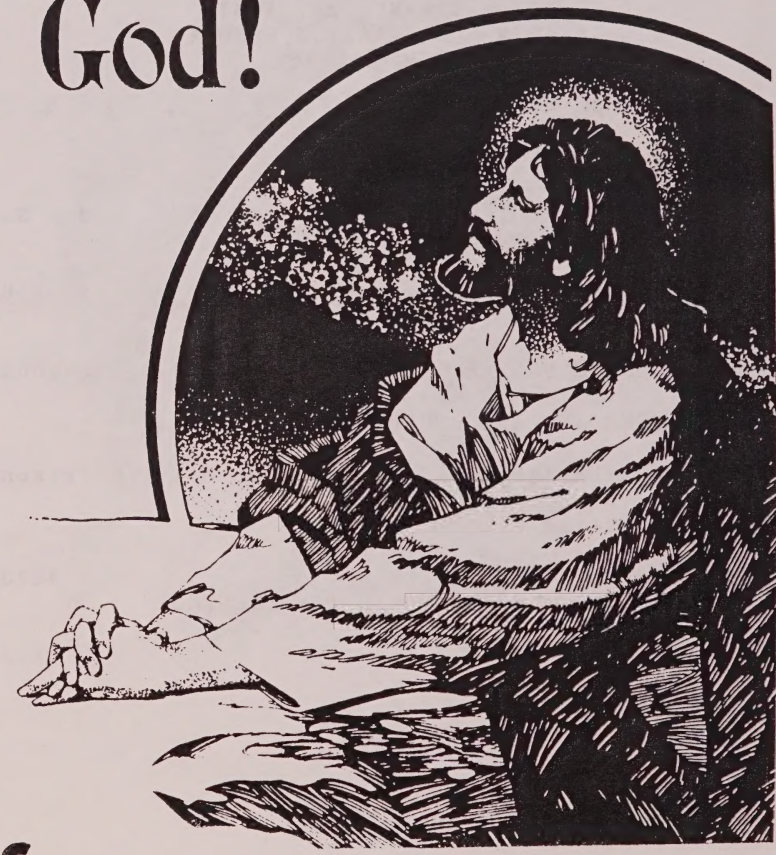
Easter Egg Hunt and games 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
(For children up to 10 years of age)

NEXT SUNDAY:

Sunrise Service at East Lake Park Gazebo 6:00 AM
(Breakfast to follow at the church)
(NOTE: DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS NEXT SUNDAY!! Spring Forward!!)

Easter Morning Worship	11:00 AM
Cantata presented by our choir	7:00 PM

Behold the Lamb of God!



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Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Cliff Morrison, Pastor
Rev. Marge Ragona, Associate Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

EASTER DAWN SERVICE
6:00 A. M.
April 3, 1994

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Christ is risen!
People: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
Leader: We shall not die, but we shall live,
People: That we may recount the deeds of God.
Leader: Christ is risen!
People: Alleluia!

OPENING HYMN: Morning Has Broken

WELCOME
OPENING PRAYER

MORNING OFFERING
SONG: Kathe
PRAYER OF DEDICATION

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURE
Epistle: I Corinthians 15:50-58
Gospel: John 20:1-18

MEDITATION ON THE MEANING OF EASTER Rev. Marge Ragona

COLLECT CALL TO CONFESSION: God, you have shown us, by Easter, your great healing gift. Heal us, we pray, of every fault and let your heavenly blessing be upon us so that we may live in perfect harmony and freedom, and go on to everlasting life through Jesus, our savior, who has risen from the dead and lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit in glory everlasting, and who taught us to pray, saying, "Our Creator..."

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Leader: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to God.
Leader: Let us give thanks.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

CONSECRATION
MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SONG: Randall

BENEDICTION
PASSING OF THE PEACE

We welcome you this morning to our Easter Dawn Service and hope you will enjoy the rest of the services of Easter with us. Our regular Sunday worship will be at 11:00 a.m., and this evening we will have the cantata, *He Wore My Crown* at the 7:00 p.m. service.

Breakfast at the church will follow this service.

God bless you all on this Easter morning.

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Cliff Morrison, Pastor
Rev. Marge Ragona, Associate Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

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Art: F. S. Davis No. 047706 Copyright © 1993 Abingdon Press Litho in U. S. A.

He is alive!

C0VENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Associate Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

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FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
June 26, 1994
11:00 a.m.

++CALL TO WORSHIP Choir

++PROCESSIONAL HYMN
" Joyful People, Come and Worship" Printed

++OPENING PRAYER John Hankins

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Steve

LITANY OF DEDICATION Insert

SPECIAL MUSIC
"O God, Our Help in Ages Past" Instrument Ensemble

OUR GIFTS TO GOD
Our Prayer Offerings
Together, let us pray for:
the people of this congregation
those who suffer and those in trouble
the concerns of our community
the world, its peoples, and its leaders
the church universal -- its leaders, its members and its mission...

Our Tithes and Gifts
Offertory
"Fairest Lord Jesus" Greg A.

++THE DOXOLOGY

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT Kay

CHILDREN'S CHURCH (Second Floor-Familyship Hall)

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES
I Samuel 17: 41-49
II Corinthians 6:1-13
Mark 4: 35-41

ANTHEM The Choir
"Master, the Tempest is Raging"

THE SERMON Rev. Marge Ragona
"Stormy Weather"

THE COLLECT CALL TO CONFESSION
God, you have cared for your faithful people in times of trial. When we have been in danger, your have provided our protection and delivered us from the hands of those who would destroy us. And yet we continue to doubt your power. We accept your grace in vain and we become afraid, knowing that our own resources are never sufficient. For doubting your power; for failing to recognize you in our midst, forgive us, O merciful God, and make us live. Hear now our silent confessions...

CHRIST'S PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON
In Christ, we are given new life. The old is gone away. The new is before us. We are freed to live fully in the present. That is the good news that sets us free to love!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING John Hankins

Celebrant: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to God.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution

THE MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH
Christ has died.
Christ is risen
Christ will come again.

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

++THE CLOSING HYMN
"O, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing" 349

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++CHORAL RESPONSE

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+ + + + +

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Sunday School for children and adults	10:00 a.m.
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Children's Choir	5:45 p.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Special Study "Healing Abuse"	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

We especially welcome you to this our first service in this facility. We are a blessed people! Please feel at home here, yet remember that we are guests and let us treat this church with love and care.

MONDAY, June 27
Deacon and Staff Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, JULY 15, 7:00 P.M.
`MARSHA STEVENS, hymn writer and wonderful singer, in concert, here.

August 26,27. 28 -- EXCEL of the Rainbow Zebra Weekend Retreat. Please ask folks wearing rainbow stoles. There are sign up forms in the foyer.

JOYFUL PEOPLE, COME AND WORSHIP

Joyful people, come and worship!
Lift your happy hearts in song,
Giving praise for your church family
In God's house where all belong.
Celebrating our uniqueness,
filled with love and pride today.
Forth we travel on faith's journey,
We, who once had turned away.

And today we lift our voices;
Of amazing love we sing,
Giving thanks and praise to Yahweh
For the joy that love can bring!
Praising Jesus and the Spirit,
Singing of amazing grace,
Here we see that same sweet spirit
On each sister's, brother's face.

God, whose mercies know no boundaries
Heard our cries for liberty;
Broke the chains of fear that bound us,
Lifted, loved, and set us free!
Learning how to love each other,
How to live and how to grow,
Children of God's new creation,
Onward, upward, now we go!

LITANY OF DEDICATION

ONE: We praise you, O God, for the joy we find in the church: for communion with one another; for the sharing of bounty and of burden; for nurturing, one year after the next; for the expressions of holiness made visible in our midst.

MANY: O God, lead us in your ways through the instrument of your church.

ONE: We give you thanks, O God, for the strengths which have brought this day into being: For the vision in the people who built this church years ago, never knowing who would follow.

MANY: We thank you, God, for our leaders who would build tomorrow's church and make us ever mindful of each person's special contribution to the life of this your church.

ONE: We call you, O God, to bring your spirit among us this day. Let us be designers of a holy temple: A place where people may find peace in the face of turmoil, yet not a place where complacency finds a home. Let us be servants and visionaries both: planters and harvesters each, stewards of a living treasure.

MANY: O God, may the church we dedicate today stand strong for many years to come, and let our lives be dedicated to you now and ever more. Bless this church in this place and let it grow to your glory. Amen.

PRAYER:

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Associate Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

Evening Worship
June 26, 1994
7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP — Cliff T.

ONE: God calls us this evening to a life of joy.
MANY: **With God, joy cracks through the bonds of despair.**

ONE: With God, joy bursts forth from moments of quiet pleasure.
MANY: **With God, joy gilds the edges of even ordinary days.**

ALL: **This is the day which our God has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

++THE OPENING HYMN
"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name — 325

++THE OPENING PRAYER

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE EVENING OFFERING

++THE DOXOLOGY

THE READINGS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURES
John 7: 37-38
Philippians 4:19
Matthew 14: 14-21

SPECIAL MUSIC — Dennis
"The Red Sea Parted"

THE SERMON — John Hankins
"It's not about loaves and fishes!"

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

CHRIST'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION — Rev. Marge Ragona
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors will be available for prayer on either side of the altar.

++CLOSING HYMN
"God Will Take Care Of You" — 56

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

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MONDAY, June 27
Deacon and Staff Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, JULY 15, 7:00 P.M.
`MARSHA STEVENS, hymn writer (For Those Tears I Died) and wonderful singer, in concert, here.

Sunday, July 24 (immediately following morning service)
Congregational Meeting to vote on the call of a new pastor.

August 26,27. 28 -- EXCEL of the Rainbow Zebra
Weekend Retreat. Please ask folks wearing rainbow stoles. There are sign up forms in the foyer.

Again, many, many thanks to all the Board, the Deacons, and members of the congregation who helped with the move. It all came together beautifully and successfully. God bless all of you.

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

"THROUGH IT ALL, LISTEN TO THE VOICE OF THE RAINBOW"

Friday, April 29, 1994

Keyboards: Darrell Mitchell, Christ Covenant MCC, Stone Mountain
Keith Mozingo, St. John's MCC, Raleigh

The Prelude — Musicians

*The Singspiration — J.R. Finney II, First MCC, Atlanta
"Through It All"
Through it all, Through it all,
I've learned to trust in Jesus, I've learned to trust in God.
Through it all, Through it all,
I've learned to depend upon God's Word.

*Call to Worship — Derrick Singletary, St. John's MCC, Raleigh
One: As in the days of Jesus the blind received their sight,
Many: So may we see you, O Gracious Savior
One: As we receive our sight, as we see you more clearly,
Many: May we also see our sister and our brother; the hungry and the poor; those who are black, brown, white, yellow; those who live next door, and those who live half a world away; all of them are neighbor to us when we call you Christ.
All: Open our eyes as we sing, open our hearts as we pray, open our lives as we worship you this evening.

*The Invocation: — The Rev. Nancy Brown, MCC Hickory

*The Opening Hymn: "Our God is Like an Eagle" (p. 8)

The Welcome and Announcements — The Rev. Jay Neely, District Coordinator
Pastor Chuck Thompson, MCC Tri-Cities

The Prayer: — The Rev. Paul Turner, All Saints MCC, Atlanta

*The Prayer Hymn: "Spirit of the Living God" (p. 52)

The Scripture Readings
Genesis 9:12-15 — Cassi Wylie, Assistant District Coordinator
*John 3:16-17 — The Rev. Tam Schult, MCC of the Gulf Coast

*The Gloria
Glory be to God, Creator of this world.
And to our Savior, Christ, Whose death has saved us all.
Glory be to the Spirit, Whose presence makes us one.
Glory be to God, the Blessed Three In One! Amen

The Special Music: — Dallas Midgett, St. Jude's MCC, Wilmington

The Sermon: LOOKING TO THE RAINBOW — Rev. Delores Berry, Evangelist
JESUS — Lancaster, PA

*The Sermon Hymn: "Amazing Grace" (p. 3)

The Offering — Darryl Walker, Christ Covenant MCC, Stone Mountain

Special Music: — Cornerstone Men's Quartet, MCC Chattanooga

*The Response:
We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gifts may be.
All that we have is Thine alone. A trust, O God, from Thee! Amen.

The Celebration of Holy Communion — The Rev. Helene Loper, MCC Mobile
J.R. Finney II, First MCC of Atlanta
(Congregation singing "The Lord's Prayer" as celebrants consume)

The Liturgy of the Quilt — The Rev. Christine Oscar
St. Mary's MCC, Greensboro

*The Hymn of Dedication: "Singing for Our Lives" (p. 20)

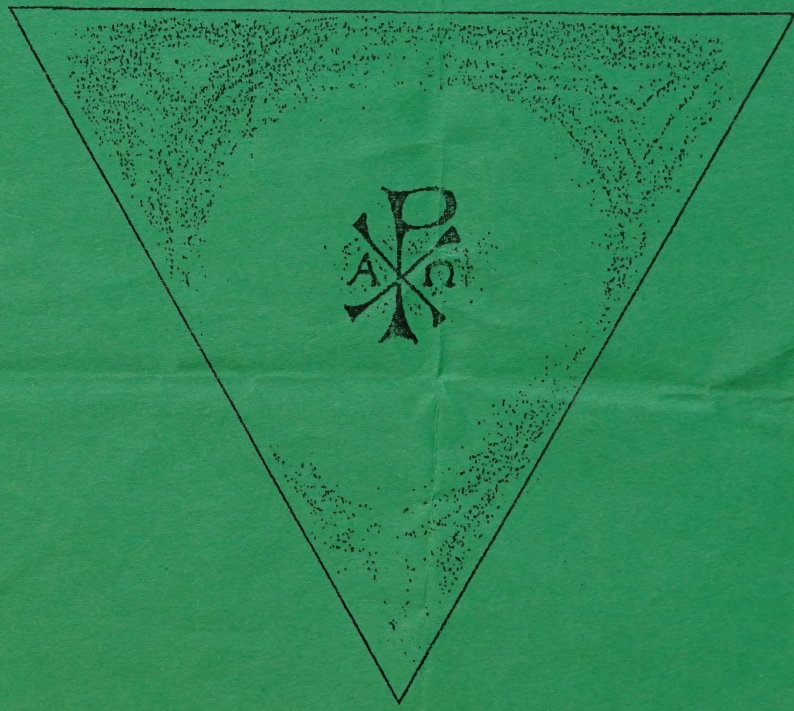
* The Closing Hymn: "O God, Our Help in Ages Past" (p. 51)

*The Benediction — Wanda Floyd
Lay Representative, District Committee

*Please rise as you are able

Thru it all,

listen to the voice of the Rainbow



Gulf Lower Atlantic District

1994 SPRING CONFERENCE

Tri-Cities, Tennessee

"THROUGH IT ALL, LISTEN TO THE VOICE OF THE RAINBOW"

Saturday, April 30, 1994

Keyboards: Darrell Mitchell, Christ Covenant MCC, Stone Mountain
Keith Mozingo, St. John's MCC, Raleigh

The Prelude — Guitar Ensemble, Christ Covenant MCC, Stone Mountain

*The Singspiration — Robert Glor, Christ Covenant MCC, Stone Mountain

"Through It All"
Through it all, Through it all,
I've learned to trust in Jesus, I've learned to trust in God.
Through it all, Through it all,
I've learned to depend upon God's Word.

*Call to Worship — Craig Haga, Jackson MCC

One: We are called from throughout the Gulf Lower Atlantic District.
Many: We are called from the dead centers of our lives.
One: We are called to praise God.
Many: We are called to serve the Holy One.
All: God has breathed into us the breath of new life. Let us worship with joy.

*The Invocation — The Rev. Liz Leech, Family of God MCC, Columbus

*The Opening Hymn: "We Praise Thee, O God" (p. 33)

The Welcome and Announcements — The Rev. Jay Neely, District Coordinator

The Special Music — Women's Sextet, Christ Covenant MCC, Stone Mountain

The Prayer: — Dr. Rembert Truluck, MCC Nashville

*The Prayer Hymn: "Surely the Presence of Our God" (p. 53)

The Scripture Readings
Hebrews: 11:8-16 — The Rev. Steve Fund, World Community Builders
*Matthew: 17:14-21 — Nancy Moody, MCC Montgomery

*The Gloria
Glory be to God, Creator of this world.
And to our Savior, Christ, Whose death has saved us all.
Glory be to the Spirit, Whose presence makes us one.
Glory be to God, the Blessed Three In One! Amen

The Special Music: — Conference Choir with Rev.Delores Berry

The Sermon: JOURNEY OF FAITH — Rev. Elder Don Eastman, UFMCC Treasurer and Second Vice Moderator

*The Sermon Hymn: "On Eagle's Wings" (p. 54)

The Offering — Sharon Lindenbaum, Clerk, District Committee

Special Music: — Carolyn Marshall, Christ Covenant MCC, Stone Mountain

*The Response:

We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gifts may be.
All that we have is Thine alone. A trust, O God, from Thee! Amen.

The Celebration of Holy Communion — The Rev. Frank Scott, MCC Asheville; Kathy Beall, St. Jude's MCC, Wilmington

Guitar Ensemble with Congregation: "Here I Am, Lord" (p. 19)
(Congregation singing "The Lord's Prayer" as celebrants consume)

* The Closing Hymn "Great is Thy Faithfulness" (p. 21)

*The Benediction — The Rev. Jim Richards, MCC Knoxville

*Please rise as you are able

Thru it all,

listen to the voice of the Rainbow

Gulf Lower Atlantic District

1994 SPRING CONFERENCE

Tri-Cities, Tennessee

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Cliff Morrison, Pastor
Rev. Marge Ragona, Associate Pastor

ORDER of WORSHIP
Wednesday, November 24, 1993
The Eve of Thanksgiving

+ + + + + +

++THE CALL TO CELEBRATION
ALL: The steadfast love of God never ceases, mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning.

++THE OPENING HYMN 98
"Great is Thy Faithfulness"

++THE OPENING PRAYER Rev. Marge Ragona

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LITANY OF PRAISE
L: Praise the name of God, who breathed life into our bodies.
P: Praise the name of God, who gave us a garden.
L: Praise the name of God, who saved us from the flood;
P: Who gave us a rainbow and sent us a dove.
L: Who promised to be our God, if we would be God's people.
P: Praise the name of God, who led us out of bondage,
L: Who parted the Red Sea and sent us manna;
P: Who sent us the prophets; who called us out of chaos to shalom.
L: Praise the name of God who sent us Jesus.
P: All praise to God almighty.

L: Praise the name of God who stills the waters,
P: Who gives us bread,
L: Who kills for us the fatted calf;
P: Who raises us from the dead;
L: Who never ceases looking for lost lambs.
P: Who saves us from self-righteousness.
L: Who heals our broken bodies,
P: Who calls us from our Sadducee and Pharisee religiosity,
L: Who challenges us to throw the first stone.
P: Who gives us a cup of cold water, and asks us to do the same for others;
L: Who calls us in Christ out of darkness and into a new light;
P: Who gives us in Christ a new commandment: Love one another.
L: Praise the name of God who weeps with us and laughs with us and calls us to believe.
P: Praise the Lord God Almighty.

HYNM: Come Ye Thankful People Come 392

READING Kay

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES Psalm 36
READER 1. God, your constant love reaches the heavens;
R2: Your faithfulness extends to the skies.
R1: Your righteousness is towering like the mountains;
R2: Your justice is like the depths of the sea.
BOTH: People and animals are in your care.
R1: How precious, O God, is your constant love.
R2: We find protection under the shadow of your wings.
R1: We feast on the abundant food you provide.
R2: You let us drink from the river of your goodness.
BOTH: You are the source of all life, And because of your light we see the light.

OUR GIFTS TO GOD
Our Prayer Offerings
Together, let us pray for:
the people of this congregation
those who suffer and those in trouble
the concerns of our community
the world, its people, and its leaders
the church universal--its leaders, its members, and its mission...

OUR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

++THE DOXOLOGY

OUR THANKSGIVING TESTIMONIALS

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION:
God, we ask you to understand our human situation: We are frail and foolish. We waste our substance following shadows. In the midst of plenty we are spiritually poor. Despite the good earth that you have given us, we are often joyless and hollow. We do not count our blessings. Forgive us and help us to become what you would have us be. Hear now our silent confessions...

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

CELEBRANT: God be with you.
PEOPLE: And also with you.
CELEBRANT: Lift up your hearts.
PEOPLE: We lift them up to God.
CELEBRANT: Let us give thanks.
PEOPLE: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution

THE MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH
Christ had died. Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

RESPONSE OF COMMITMENT

LEADER: O God, you give us the morning sun and the evening star.
PEOPLE: We have gathered to thank you.
LEADER: O God, in you we live and move and have our being:
PEOPLE: We have gathered to praise you.
LEADER: O God, you bring us out of our wilderness experiences into your Promised Land:
PEOPLE: O God, we praise your name.
LEADER: God of Grace, Giver of gifts, bless us we pray, as we seek to respond to your gift of Jesus Christ.
PEOPLE: In Christ's name we thank you. Amen.

++CLOSING HYMN 394
"Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart"

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION
Thank you, God, for all you have given and all you are giving. May we respond by giving to others. In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE
+ + + + +

TO OUR VISITORS: We are glad to have you worship with us this evening. Please sign a visitors' card and place it in the offering plate. We would like you to make this your church home.

Communion at Covenant MCC is always served with nonalcoholic grape juice.

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Cliff Morrison, Pastor
Rev. Marge Ragona, Associate Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

ORDER OF WORSHIP
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1993
THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT
EVENING SERVICE

+ + + + + + + + + + + +

SINGSPIRATION

THE CALL TO WORSHIP Pastor Cliff Morrison

PASTOR: Now is the time of watching and waiting.
PEOPLE: THE TIME OF GREAT EXPECTATION OF NEW LIFE.
PASTOR: Now is the season of hope unfolding.
PEOPLE: THE DARK WINTER SEASON WHEN HOPE IS WAITING TO BE BORN.
PASTOR: Let us come before God with receptive and willing spirits.
PEOPLE: MAY OUR SOULS MAGNIFY GOD'S NAME!
PASTOR: May our spirits rejoice in God our Savior!
ALL: REJOICE! GOD COMES TO BRING THE BIRTHDAY OF LIFE AND HOPE. AMEN.

++THE OPENING CAROL #178
"O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM"

++THE OPENING PRAYER Rev. Marge Ragona

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Peg

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION Pastor Cliff Morrison

CHRIST'S PRAYER

++THE CAROL OF CELEBRATION #197
"IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR"

THE EVENING OFFERING Jimmy

THE OFFERTORY SOLO Greg
"CHRISTMAS MEDLEY"

++THE DOXOLOGY

THE READINGS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURES
++Luke 1:26-33, 38
++Matthew 1:18-24
++Luke 2:1-7

THE SPECIAL MUSIC Randall
"JOSEPH'S SONG"

THE SERMON Rev. Marge Ragona
"OBEDIENCE"

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION Pastor Cliff Morrison
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

++THE CLOSING HYMN #306
"LO! HE COMES WITH CLOUDS DESCENDING"

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++THE PASSING OF PEACE

+ + + + + + + + + + + +

WELCOME VISITORS!!!

It is a real joy to welcome you to our worship service this evening of the third Sunday in Advent. We hope you receive a blessing from it and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Again, WELCOME!!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY:

Sunday School	10:00 AM
Morning Worship	11:00 AM
Evening Worship and Praise	7:00 PM

TUESDAY:

Choir Practice	6:00 PM

WEDNESDAY:

Old Testament Study Series	7:00 PM

THURSDAY:

Bible Study (maps are available in the vestibule)	7:00 PM

SPECIAL EVENTS THIS WEEK

MONDAY:

Board Meeting	7:00 PM

THURSDAY:

Karen Ann Edwards Concert and Pasta Pot Luck	7:00 PM
Cookie Party	following the Pot Luck

FRIDAY:

Caroling and delivery of cookie trays	7:00 PM

SATURDAY:

Church Christmas Banquet	7:00 PM

NEXT SUNDAY:

Cantatas presented by both our adult and children's choirs	7:00 PM

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS EVE:

Candlelight Service (this one is new and very different from past years!) 10:30 PM

CHRISTMAS NIGHT

Christmas Dinner at Roy and Gary's

For unto us a child is born,
Unto us a son is given:
And His name shall be called-
Wonderful! Counsellor! The Mighty God!
The everlasting Father! The Prince of Peace!

Isaiah IX:6

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

G.L.A.D. SPRING CONFERENCE, 1993
LITURGY OF THE QUILT

Friday, April 30, 1993
Evening Worship Service

+ + + + + + + + + + + + +

LITURGIST #1: Jesus said, "Let not your hearts be troubled; believe in God, believe also in me. In the house of God my Father and Mother there are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And when I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give it to you as the world gives. So don't let your hearts be troubled. Don't be afraid."

LITURGIST #2: Here in this quiet moment, we pause to remember those we have known who have died from AIDS and to share in the celebration of their memory and the promise of eternal life for all who believe in our Risen Savior. At this time, will all who have panels to add to this quilt please bring them forward and spread them here on the floor?

LITURGIST #1: (Upon completion of the laying out of the panels) O God, there are times when our doubts and anxieties and fears swirl around inside us with chaotic frenzy and turmoil.

PEOPLE: **When we lose someone close to us, the world of order and meaning that we cherish seems to disintegrate around us, splintering and smashing apart like a fragile boat caught at sea in a mighty storm. Our world of life and light feels threatened from every side, from within and from without.**

LITURGIST: Yet in the midst of our fear, in the midst of our doubt, in the midst of our loss, you, O God, are with us, calling us to hear your words of hope and comfort, to find in each other hope and love and testimony to your gracious love and power.

PEOPLE: **The light of God's gracious love, the hope that is ours in the gospel of Jesus, the faith that is our precious gift from God's merciful heart -- since all of these are ours and we belong to God, let fear depart from among us and let us uncover our vulnerability and feeling of helplessness.**

LITURGIST: Yes, to fall at the feet of Jesus is not weakness. To grieve the loss of a loved one is not something to be held back. Remember, Jesus, too, wept at the tomb of Lazarus. So it is right that we come together at this time to remember, to grieve our loss, and to praise God for life, not only here on earth, but for all eternity.

PEOPLE: **Be not afraid. Be not afraid to feel the pain of loss and the emptiness that goes with it. Neither be afraid to look up into the immeasurable light of God's goodness and infinite grace. Be not afraid to grasp the outstretched hand and be lifted from death into life. Be not afraid to journey from sickness into eternal health. Be not afraid to travel from fear into hope, from despair into joy.**

Jesus said, "Be not afraid. Take heart. Follow me." Amen.

LITURGIST #2: Eternal God, Giver of life, Conqueror of death, our help in time of trouble, comfort us who morn, and give us grace, as we remember our loved ones, to worship you, that we may have sure hope of eternal life and be enabled to put our whole trust in your goodness and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

ALL WHO WISH MAY COME FORWARD TO VIEW THE QUILT AT THIS TIME.

G.L.A.D. CONFERENCE
SPRING, 1993

Liturgy of the Quilt

"Children of the Rainbow Promise"

Friday, April 30, 1993

The Prelude — Dr. S. Darrell Mitchell, Pianist
Howard Watkins, Organist

+ The Singspiration — Wes Fortner
Covenant MCC, Birmingham

+ The Call to Worship — Wanda Floyd, Lay Delegate
St. John's MCC, Raleigh

+ The Invocation — John Langston, Board Member
All Saints MCC, Atlanta

The Welcome and Announcements
The Rev. Jay Neely, District Coordinator
Cliff Morrison, Pastor, Covenant MCC, Birmingham

The Prayer — The Rev. Janet Pierce
MCC Huntsville

The Scripture Readings — The Rev. Helene Loper
MCC Mobile

+ The Gloria

Glor-y be to God, Cre-a-tor of this world.
And to our Sav-ior, Christ, Whose death has saved us all.
Glor-y be to the Spir-it, Whose pres-ence makes us one.
Glor-y be to God, the Bless-ed Three in One! A-men.

The Special Music: "I Can See"
Dennis Luft, District Treasurer
Covenant MCC, Birmingham

The Sermon in Word
Pastor Mary Moore, MCC Charleston

The Sermon in Song: "Light Your World"
Victory Singers, MCC Charleston

+ The Sermon Hymn #12 — "The Family of God"

The Offering — Wayne Shelton, Board Member
MCC Augusta

+ The Response — "We Give Thee But Thine Own"

We give Thee but Thine own,
What-e'er the gifts may be.
All that we have is Thine a-lone.
A trust, O God, from Thee! A-men.

The Celebration of Holy Communion
The Rev. Lynn Guerra, Charlotte
The Rev. Mick Hinson, MCC Greenville

+ The Hymn of Dedication #11
"Standing on the Promises"

The Liturgy of the Quilt
The Rev. Christine Oscar
St. Mary's MCC, Greensboro

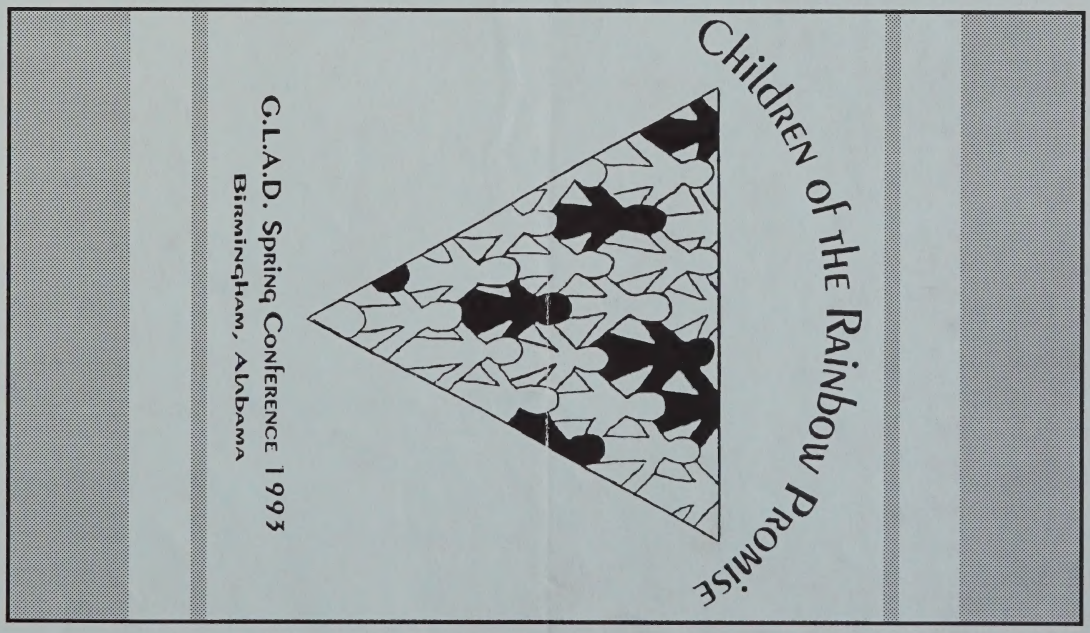
The Closing Song: "Wounded Soldier"
Dennis Luft and Randall Foster
Covenant MCC, Birmingham

+ The Benediction — The Rev. Tam Schult
MCC Tri-Cities, Johnson City

+ *Please rise as you are able*

Cathy Cason
(MCC - Coastal GA) "Savannah"
519 E. 49th ST
Savannah GA 31405
General Info

Lisa Crook



Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

Cliff Morrison, Pastor
Rev. Marge Ragona, Associate Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

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ORDER OF WORSHIP
SUNDAY, JANUARY 23, 1994
MORNING SERVICE

+ + + + + + + + + + + + +

THE CALL TO WORSHIP John Hankins

LEADER: Come, gather together like those who sat at Jesus' feet so many years ago.
PEOPLE: **WE GATHER WITH JOY, FOR WE TOO WANT TO BE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST.**
LEADER: I tell you, Christ is here with us, calling us now to life and love.
ALL: **LET US PRAISE GOD FOR BRINGING US TOGETHER, AND COMING TO US IN JESUS CHRIST. AMEN.**

++THE OPENING HYMN #318

"COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING"

++THE OPENING PRAYER Pastor Cliff Morrison

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE COLLECT CALL TO CONFESSION Rev. Marge Ragona

Eternal God, we confess that we do not expect and long for the transforming power of your love to work miracles in these hard hearts of ours. Yet we secretly long for a rescue, an escape, a miracle, to relieve us of the responsibilities and the challenges you set before us. Healing Spirit, renew our confidence in your power and in the power of love to change our lives, and give us courage to be the fully responsible persons Christ calls us to be. Hear now our silent confessions...

CHRIST'S PRAYER and CHORAL RESPONSE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND ABSOLUTION

++THE HYMN OF CELEBRATION #223

"I STAND AMAZED"

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Our Prayer Offerings Randall

Together, let us pray for:
the people of this congregation
those who suffer and those in trouble
the concerns of our community
the world, its peoples, and its leaders
the church universal - its leaders, its members, and its mission...

Our Tithes and Gifts Greg

THE OFFERTORY SOLO Greg

"JESUS MEDLEY"

++THE DOXOLOGY (see back of hymnal)

JUST FOR THE CHILDREN Peg

THE READINGS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

Ezekiel 18:5-9
Hebrews 13:1-8
++Luke 9:11-17

THE ANTHEM Choir

"GO NOT FAR FROM ME, O GOD"

THE SERMON Pastor Cliff Morrison

"HOW ARE WE TO FEED THEM ALL?"

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING John Hankins

CELEBRANT: God be with you.
PEOPLE: **AND ALSO WITH YOU.**
CELEBRANT: Lift up your hearts.
PEOPLE: **WE LIFT THEM UP UNTO GOD.**
CELEBRANT: Let us give thanks to God.
PEOPLE: **IT IS RIGHT TO GIVE GOD THANKS AND PRAISE.**

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution

THE MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH: CHRIST HAS DIED. CHRIST IS RISEN. CHRIST WILL COME AGAIN.

Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

++THE CLOSING HYMN #56

"GOD WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU"

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION Rev. Marge Ragona

++CHORAL RESPONSE

++THE PASSING OF PEACE

+ + + + + + + + + + + + +

WELCOME VISITORS!!!

We are truly happy that you are worshipping with us this morning!! We hope you receive a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out one of our Visitor's Cards (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we may serve you. Again, WELCOME!!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY:

Sunday School for children and adults	10:00 AM
Morning Worship	11:00 AM
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 PM

TUESDAY:

Choir Practice	6:00 PM

WEDNESDAY:

New Testament Study Series	7:00 PM

THURSDAY:

Bible Study (maps are available in the vestibule)	7:00 PM

SPECIAL EVENTS THIS WEEK

MONDAY:

Deacon and Staff Meeting	6:00 PM
Deacon Training	7:00 PM

TUESDAY:

Communion Training	7:30 PM

X also Feb 6 - 5:30
Int. Prayer

COMING EVENTS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Ray Barerras of First MCC, Atlanta will bring a special program concerning our missionary work in the Dominican Republic. Mark your calendar!

CMCC's 13thANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!!!

The weekend of February 11-13 will begin with a concert by Karen Ann Edwards and will continue Saturday with a special day of Inquirer's Classes designed as much for renewal for our members as well as those seeking membership in our church. Saturdau night, we will host our annual Sweetheart Ball and Rev. Jay Neely will be bringing the message at our Sunday Morning service. There will also be lots of food and familyship throughout the weekend. We'll have more information later!

Article re anointing w oil.
article re Jeri Ann.
Article abt- intercessory prayer.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

SECOND OFFERING TODAY

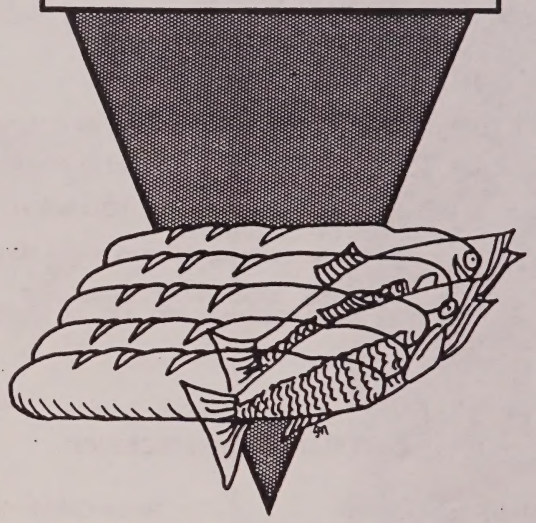
We will take a second offering at both services for Church Family relief to include money for legal assistance for New Life MCC, Charlotte, NC, and for LA disaster relief especially for our "Mother Church" MCC, LA which was destroyed during the earthquake.

THERE IS AN ENVELOPE WITH YOUR NAME ON IT!!

All members and others who have contributed to the church during 1993 have a personal envelope in a box in the vestibule. This envelope contains a record of your contributions for incomke tax purposes as well as important information for the coming year. Please pick yours up after the service. Thanks!

Matt. 14:19, 21

And He directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and two fishes and looking up to heaven, He gave thanks and broke the loaves...The number of those who ate was about five thousand....."



Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Cliff Morrison, Pastor
Rev. Marge Ragona, Associate Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

ORDER OF WORSHIP
CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

+ + + + + + + + + + + +

THE CALL TO WORSHIP Pastor Cliff Morrison

PASTOR: The world is decked in the garb of celebration:
PEOPLE: TINSEL AND LIGHTS, GARLANDS OF GREENERY, BRIGHTLY COLORED PACKAGES AND FLASHING CHRISTMAS GREETINGS COVER OUR WORLD.
PASTOR: The world is engaged in the spirit of celebration:
PEOPLE: FESTIVE SINGING, FINE FOOD, MERRY PARTIES, AND GRAND TRADITIONS ABOUND.
PASTOR: Yet the best efforts fall short,
PEOPLE: FOR IT IS THE BIRTH OF THE MESSIAH WE CELEBRATE.
PASTOR: It is the incarnation of God.
PEOPLE: HOW CAN WE RESPOND TO THE GREATNESS OF THIS EVENT?
PASTOR: How can we celebrate the Messiah's birth?
PEOPLE: WE CELEBRATE IN WORSHIP.
PASTOR: Christmas is a time of worship. It is the moment when the busiest of us pause in wonder.
ALL: LET US WORSHIP TOGETHER.

++THE OPENING CAROL #168
"COME, THOU LONG EXPECTED JESUS"

THE SERVICE OF LIGHTS

NARRATOR — Rev. Marge Ragona
SCRIPTURE READER — Pastor Cliff Morrison
READER #1 — Allan
READER #2 — Dottie
READER #3 — Mark C.
READER #4 — Lisa

SOLOS

"I WONDER AS I WANDER"
Pastor Cliff Morrison

"O HOLY NIGHT"
Mark

"JOSEPH'S SONG"
Randall

"MY BABY JESUS"
Dottie

"SWEET LITTLE JESUS BOY"
Mark

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION Pastor Cliff Morrison

Light of the World, you gave us the transforming birth of the child Jesus as a light for our path. Yet we confess that we shut our eyes to the light We acknowledge our reluctance to see and share our gifts with our sisters and brothers. We are often dazzled by the glitter and tinsel the world has made of Christ's birth. We ask that your Spirit be lit within us, that we may share your gifts of peace and justice with all people. Hear now our silent confessions...

CHRIST'S PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND ABSOLUTION

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving
SOLO — Pastor Cliff Morrison
"ALL IS WELL"

SOLO Dennis
"SOME CHILDREN SEE HIM"

++THE CLOSING CAROL # 195

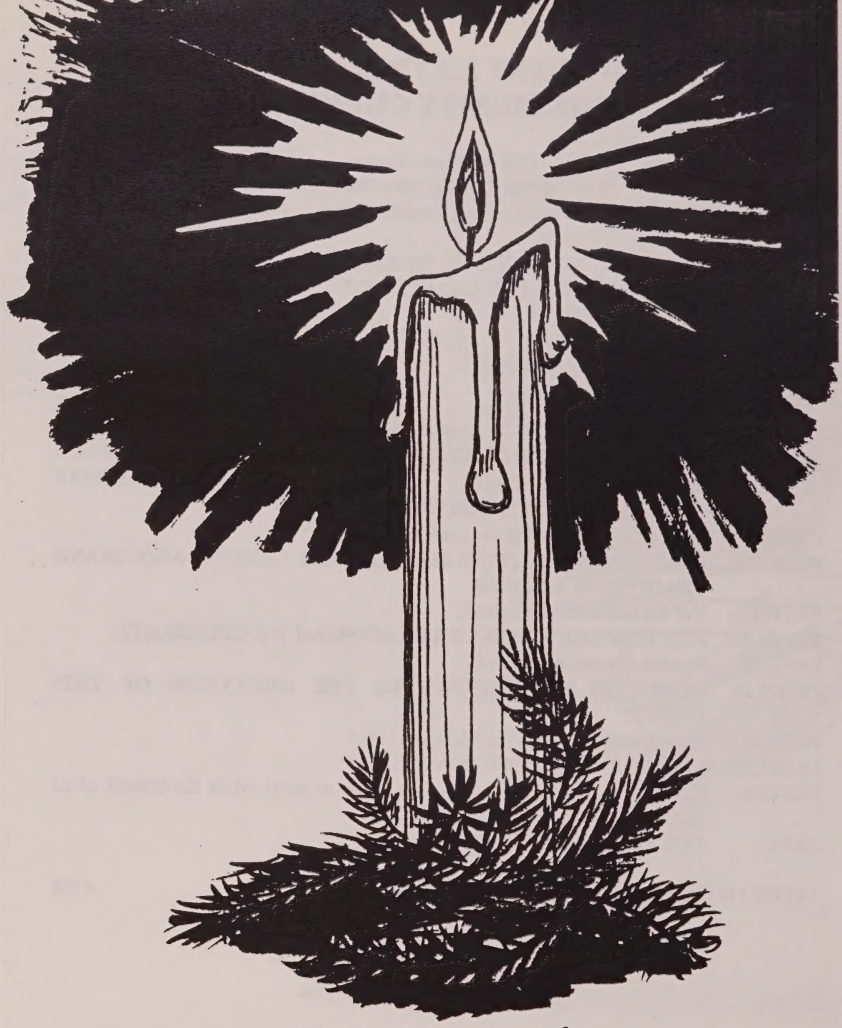
"SILENT NIGHT"

During the singing of this carol, the Pastor shall light his candle from the flame of the Christ candle of the Advent wreath. He shall pass the flame to the Associate Pastor. Each will then light the candles of the ushers who will pass their flames to end persons of each row of the congregation. Each person, in turn, will pass the flame on to the next until all candles are lighted. As we sing the third verse, at the words, "Son of God, love's pure light", raise your candle so as to flood the sanctuary with this symbol of the Light of the World, our Savior Jesus Christ. At the words, "Jesus, Lord, at thy birth", lower your candle again and, at the conclusion of the service, carry your light with you to the vestibule where you may extinguish it if you wish.

++THE BENEDICTION Rev. Marge Ragona and Pastor Cliff Morrison

DEPART IN PEACE WITH THE FULL LOVE OF OUR NEWBORN SAVIOR, CHRIST THE LORD.

+ + + + + + + + + + + +



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

CHRISTMAS EVE FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

CLIFF: ***(sings "I WONDER AS I WANDER")***

MARGE: ***(all lights are gradually extinguished as she speaks)***
Tonight we have come to celebrate the light that has come into the world. Have you ever been in darkness? ***(more lights are out)*** Complete darkness? . . . Total darkness? ***(all lights OUT)*** All darkness? ***(total quiet for several seconds)***

In the beginning of time, before creation "darkness was upon the face of the deep. . . . the earth was without form and void . . ."

What confusion, desolation, loneliness, alienation, fear, and desperation there is in darkness. In darkness there are no visible objects, no sense of direction, no beauty, no joy, no meaning.

But God created light and life.

CLIFF: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep; and the Spirit of God was moving over the face of the waters. And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light." ***(acolyte lights Marge's and Cliff's reading candles)***

MARGE: How good it is to have light! Light illumines the darkness. Light reveals our surroundings. Light brightens the horizon, and makes plants grow, flowers blossom, fruit ripen. Light sustains health and exposes evil. What a blessing to have light, as the Genesis author indicates.

CLIFF: "And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light *Day* ***(altar candles are lighted)*** and the darkness was called *Night*. And there was evening and there was morning, one day. And God said, 'Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters. And let it separate the waters from the waters.' And God ... separated the waters from the firmament ... and God called the firmament Heaven. And there was evening and morning, a second day. And then God created the earth and commanded it to bring forth vegetation and fruit bearing trees. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and morning, a third day. And God said, "Let there be *lights* in the firmament of the heavens to separate the day from the night' ... ***(two people come forward with candles, light them from the altar candles, then light all side window candles)*** And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, a fourth day. And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the firmament of the heavens.' And God blessed them, saying, 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas and let the birds multiply on the earth.' And there was evening and there was morning, a fifth day. And God said, 'Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds: cattle and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds.' And it was so. And God saw that it was good."

MARGE: Thus the world was made, light and beautiful, setting the stage for God's supreme creation --- humanity! Listen.

CLIFF: "Then God said, 'Let us make humans in our own image, after our likeness; and they shall have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.' So God created humans in God's own image, in the image of God, they were created: male and female, God created them. And God blessed them and said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over every living thing that moves upon the face of the earth.' And God saw everything that God had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, a sixth day."

MARGE: This pictures God and all God's creatures, including humankind, at peace, living according to the light of God's will. However, soon dark, rebellious thoughts entered the minds of humans. Humans began to move out on their own, ignoring the light, turning away from God's instruction. This was the sin of humankind. Hear how the Bible describes it.

CLIFF: "People loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil, for those who do evil hate the light, and do not come to the light, lest their deeds should be exposed."

MARGE: So humanity became separated from God. Because of this, the world became filled with chaos, war, hate, prejudice, rape, obscenity, and death! And the world's light was turned to darkness. But God could not bear for humanity to live in the darkness of sin. So God led Moses to write in words the basis for living meaningfully as human beings with each other and with God. These Ten Commandments were lights shining in the darkness.

CLIFF: ***(as acolyte lights each of the ten candles along the choir rail)***

1. You shall have no other gods before me.
2. You shall not make yourself a graven image.
3. You shall not take the name of your God in vain.
4. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.
5. Honor your parents that your lives may be long upon the land which God has given you.
6. You shall not kill.
7. You shall not commit adultery.
8. You shall not steal.
9. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
10. You shall not covet.

MARGE: But the people loved to be in the darkness and did not love the light. One by one these lights were ignored or dimmed. "Give us a golden calf! Give us a king like other nations! Why not take advantage of the poor? Why not go to war? Why can't I sleep with my neighbor's spouse? Why not get by with what you can? Isaiah gives the answer.

CLIFF: "Therefore, justice is far from us, and righteousness does not overtake us; we look for light, and behold darkness, and for brightness, but we walk in gloom. We grope for the wall, like those who cannot see; we grope like those who have no eyes. We stumble at noon as in the twilight. Our transgressions are multiplied before thee, and our sins testify against us.

MARGE: But God would not leave the world in the condition that our sins had left it. God would not give up the quest for human obedience and salvation. God sent prophets to rekindle the flame of God's dominion, to give humanity insight and to call those in darkness into God's marvelous light.

(During the next several speeches, a single candle of the Menorah is lighted every time another prophet's name is given, beginning with one end candle, then the other end, and so on until all but the center candle are lighted)

MARGE: Amos:

READER 1: "... they sell the righteousness for silver, and the needy for a pair of shoes; they trample the head of the poor into the dust of the earth, and turn aside the way of the afflicted. My holy name is profaned."

MARGE: Hosea:

READER 2.: "There is no fidelity, no mercy; no knowledge of God in the land: false swearing, lying, murder, stealing and adultery. In their lawlessness bloodshed follows bloodshed. Therefore the land mourns, and everything that dwells in it languishes."

MARGE: Habakkuk:

READER 3: "Behold, the one whose soul is not upright shall fail, but the righteous shall live by their faith."

MARGE: Ezekiel:

READER 4: " ' ... as I live,' says your God, 'I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live. Turn back, turn back from your wicked ways, turn back from your evil ways.' "

MARGE: Isaiah:

READER 1: " 'Come now, let us reason together,' says your God; 'though your sins are like scarlet they shall be as pure as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be as wool.' "

MARGE: Micah:

READER 2: "God has shown you what is good; and what does God require of you but to do justice and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God."

MARGE: Jeremiah:
(center candle of Menorah is lighted)

READER 3: "I will make a new covenant with you. I will put my law within you, and I will write it upon your hearts, and I will be your God and you will be my people."

MARGE: Zephaniah:
(acolyte lights first candle of the Advent wreath)

READER 4: "God is in your midst. God will renew you in love."

MARGE: Joel:
(the second candle of the Advent wreath is lighted)

READER 1: "Return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments. Return to your God, for God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love."

MARGE: Malachi:
(the third candle of the Advent wreath is lighted)

READER 2: " 'Children honor their parents, and servants honor their overseers. If then I am a parent, where is my honor? And if I am an overseer, where is the fear of me?' says the God of hosts to you."

(the fourth candle of the Advent wreath is lighted)

MARGE: Light -- yes, plenty of light! But the darkness was loved more than light. So the words of the prophets were unheeded. Once again darkness was to fall upon the earth. God had given the word but it was not heard. God had sent the prophets, but they were pelted with stones! What could God do now? God must make one final effort. God would send Godself, and so God did.

CLIFF: "In many various ways, God spoke of old to our ancestors by the prophets, but in these last days, God has spoken to us by God's Son who reflects the glory of God and bears the very stamp of God's nature..."

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The Word was in the beginning with God. All things were made by the Word, and without the Word was not anything made that was made. In the Word was life, and the life was the light of the world. ... The true light that enlightens everyone was coming into the world. And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth. We have beheld his glory, glory as of the only begotten of God, and from his fullness have we all received grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth come through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; the only begotten has made God known."

MARGE: So it came to pass in a little town called Bethlehem, God caused Godself to be born in the flesh. A peasant girl named Mary gave birth to a Child whose name was called Jesus.

(Mark sings "O HOLY NIGHT")

MARGE: ***(spoken)***
O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light.
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

(Randall sings "JOSEPH'S SONG")

CLIFF: "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them has the light shined."

(acolyte lights the Christ Candle at the center of the Advent wreath.)
(Dottie sings "MY BABY JESUS")

MARGE: But Jesus' ministry, too, lasted only three short years, and the light which God had caused to come into the world was to be snuffed out upon a cross of agony and death.

CLIFF: "Christ was in the world and the world was made through him, and yet the world knew him not. He came to his own and his own people received him not."

READER 3: If there is no cross in the manger, there is no Christmas. If the Babe does not become the Adult, there is no Bethlehem star. If there is no commitment in us, there are no wise men searching. If we offer no cup of cold water, there is no gold, no frankincense, no myrrh. If there is no praising God's name, there are no angels singing. If there is no spirit of alleluia, there are no shepherds watching. If there is no standing up, no speaking out, , no risk, there is no Herod, no flight into Egypt. If there is no room in our inn, then "Merry Christmas" mocks the Christ Child, and the Holy Family is just a holiday card, and God will loathe our feasts and festivals.

READER 4: For if there is no reconciliation, we cannot call Christ "Prince of Peace." If there is no goodwill toward others, it can all be packed away in boxes for another year. If there is no forgiveness in us, there is no cause for celebration. If we cannot go now even unto Golgotha, there is no Christmas in us. If Christmas is not *now*, If Christ is not born into the everyday present, then what is all the *noise* about?

(Mark sings "SWEET LITTLE JESUS BOY")

MARGE: And once again the world is a jungle of sin with war, hatred, greed, selfishness, riot, rebellion --- and darkness hovers over the earth. Nevertheless...

CLIFF: "The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it."

(COMMUNION SERVICE, Cliff celebrates)

(When all servers are behind altar, Cliff sings "ALL IS WELL". Music continues as servers consume remaining elements)

MARGE: The world has not overcome the light. God's light in Jesus still shines brightly, as the motivation for every noble service, the inspiration for compassion and goodwill, the illuminating of purpose, the good of the world community and peace.

(Dennis sings "SOME CHILDREN SEE HIM")

(Cliff lights a candle from the Christ candle)

CLIFF: There is still hope in our world because of the light the infant Jesus brought. The light must be extended to penetrate the darkness. What will you do with ***your*** light?

(Cliff lights the candles of two others who pass the flame to the first person on each row as all begin singing "SILENT NIGHT". All candles are held below face level until the third verse. At the words, "Son of God, love's pure light", all candles should be raised so as to flood the sanctuary with light. At the words, "Jesus, Lord, at thy birth", the candles should be lowered again.)

MARGE: Go now into the world with the light you have received. Go so that love may be known and peace on earth may truly come in the hearts of all people.

CLIFF: Let your light so shine before the world that all may see your good works and give glory to God who is in heaven. Amen.

(The service has ended. The congregation should carry their lighted candles out with them.)

MARGE : Tonight we come to celebrate the light that has come into the world. Have you ever been in darkness? Complete darkness? Total darkness? All darkness?

In the beginning of time, before Creation -- "Darkness was upon the face of the deep... the earth was without form and void..."

What confusion and desolation, alienation and fear and sometimes what desperation when we are left in the dark. In darkness there are no visible objects to get our bearings, no sense of direction, no beauty, no joy, often no meaning.

But God created light and life.

READER I: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep; and the Spirit of God moved over the face of the waters, and God said, "Let there be light ," and there was light."

John Petersone

(Acolyte enters and lights central candle.)

MARGE: How good it is to have light! Light illumines the darkness. Light reveals our surroundings. Light brightens the horizon, and makes plants grow, flowers blossom, fruits ripen. Light sustains health, and exposes action. What a blessing to have light, as the Genesis author indicates.

READER I: "And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from darkness. God called the light Day (altar candles are lit) and the darkness was called Night. And there was evening and morning, one day. And God said, "Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters... and God called the firmament Heaven. And there was evening and morning, a second day. And God created the earth and commanded it to bring forth vegetation and fruit-bearing trees. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and morning, a third day.

Reader I: And God said, "Let there be lights in the firmament of heaven to separate the day from the night... (side lights are lit) And God saw that it was good, and it was evening and morning, a fourth day . And God said, "let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the firmament of the heavens. " And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas and let the birds multiply on the earth. And there was evening and morning, a fifth day. And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures, according to their kind: Cattle and creeping things, and beasts of the earth, according to their kind." And it was so. And God saw that it was good.

Marge: Thus, the world was made, light and beautiful, setting the stage for God's supreme creation -- humanity! Listen.

Reader I: "Then God said, "Let us make humanity in our image, after our likeness; and they shall have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." So God created humanity in God's own image, in the image of God created God them: Male and female, God created them. And God blessed them and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over every living thing that moves upon the face of the earth." And God saw everything that God had made, and behold, it was very good, and there was evening and morning, a sixth day.

MARGE: This pictures God and all God's creatures , including humanity, at peace, living according to the light of God's will. However, soon rebellious thoughts entered the minds of humanity. Humanity thought

it was independent and ignored God's light, and turned away from God's instruction. This was humanity's sin. This is the way the Bible describes it.

Reader II: Chad

People loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil, for those who do evil hate to be in the light, and do not come to the light, lest their deeds should be exposed.

MARGE:

So humanity became separated from God. Because of this, the world became chaotic, filled with war, hate, prejudice, rape, and death! And the world's light was turned to darkness. But God could not bear for humanity to live in the darkness of sin. So God led Moses to write in words the basis for living meaningfully as human beings with each other and with God. These ten commandments were lights shining in the darkness.

Reader III: Steve

You shall have no other Gods before me. (lights first candle at top of candlabra.)

Reader IV: Angel

You shall not make yourself a graven image. (Lights first candle at top of candlabra.)

Reader III:

You shall not take the name of your God in vain. (Begins to light bottom row of candles.)

Reader IV:

Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. (Begins to light bottom row of candles.)

Readdr III:

Honor your parents that your lives may be long upon the land which God has given you. (lights next candle at bottom)

Reader IV:

You shall not kill. (Lights next candle at bottom.)

Reader III:

You shall not commit adultery. (lights next candle)

Reader IV.

You shall not steal. (Lights next candle)

Reader III: You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. (lights 4th candle at bottom)

Reader IV. You shall not covet. (lights 4th candle at bottom.)

MARGE: But the people loved to be in the darkness and did not love the light. One by one these lights were ignored or dimmed. "Give us a golden calf!" "Give us a king like other nations." "Why not take advantage of the poor." "Why not go to war?" "Why can't I sleep with my neighbor's spouse?" "Why not get by with what you can?" Isaiah gives the answer:

READER V: "Therefore, justice is far from us, and righteousness does not overtake us; We look for light and behold darkness; and for brightness, but we walk in gloom. We grope for the wall, like those who cannot see; we grope like those who have no eyes. We stumble at noon, as in twilight. Our transgressions are multiplied before thee, and our sins testify against us."

Jerry

Marge: But God would not leave the world in the condition that our sins had left it. God would not give up the quest for humanity's obedience and salvation. God sent prophets to rekindle the flame of God's dominion, to give humanity insight and to call those in darkness into God's marvelous light. Amos.

Reader III. ..."They sell the righteous for silver and the needy fora pair of shoes; they trample the head of the poor into the dust of the earth and turn aside the way of the afflicted. My holy name is profaned.

Marge: Hosea.

(as each prophet is named - a light on the candlabrum ~~at~~ is lit until all candles are burning.)

Reader IV: There is no fidelity, no mercy; no knowledge of God in the land. False swearing, lying, murder, stealing and adultery. In their lawlessness, bloodshed follows bloodshed. Therefore the land mourns, and everything that dwells in it languishes.

Marge: Habakuk.

Reader III: Behold, the one whose soul is not upright shall fail, but the righteous shall live by their faith.

Marge: Ezekiel.

Reader IV: As I live, says your God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live. Turn back, turn back from your wicked ways, turn back from your evil ways.

Marge: Isaiah.

Reader III: Come now, let us reason together, says your God; though your sins are like scarlet they shall beas pure as snow, though they are red as crimson, they shall be as wool.

Marge: Micah.

Reader IV: God has shown you what is good, and what does God require of you: To do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.

Marge: Jeremiah.

Reader III: I will make a new covenant with you. I will put my law within you, and I will write it upon your hearts, and I will be your God and you will be my people.

Marge: Zephaniah.

Reader IV: God is in your midst. God will renew you in love.

Marge: Joel.

Reader III. Return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning and rending your heartsand not your garments. Return to your God, for God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"

Marge: Light, plenty of light. But the darkness was loved more than light. So the words of the prophets were unheeded. Once again darkness was to fall upon the earth. God had given the word but it was not heard. God had sent the prophets, but they were pelted with stones. What could God do now? God must make one final effort. God would send Godself, and God did.

~~"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"~~

Reader I: In many and various ways, God spoke of old to our parents by the prophets, but in these last days, God has spoken to us by One who reflects the glory of God, and bears the very stamp of God's nature.

Larry

In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God, and the word was God. The word was in the beginning with God and all things were made by the Word, and without the word was not anything made that was made. In the Word was life, and the life was the Light of the world. The true light that enlightends everyone was coming into the world. (Lights Advent candles.) And the word was made flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth. We have beheld his glory,

glory as of the only begotten of God, and from his fullness have we all received grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses, grace and truth come through Jesus Christ. (~~Lights Christ candle.~~)

None have ever seen God, the only begotten had made God known.

Marge: So it came to pass in a little town in Bethlehem, God caused Godself to be born in the flesh. A peasant girl named Mary gave birth to a child whose name was called Jesus:

CONGREGATION: * Sings, "O Little Town of Bethlehem."

Reader II: Larry The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them has the light shined. (light Christ candle)

Marge: But Jesus ministry, too, lasted only three years, and the light which God caused to come into the world was to be snuffed out upon the cross of agony and death. (Lights cross.)

Reader I: Larry Christ was in the world and the world was made by him and yet the world knew him not. He came to his own and his own people received him not.

Marge: Once again the world is a jungle of sin ~~with~~ and war, hatred, greed, selfishness, riot, rebellion, and darkness hover over the earth. Nevertheless...

Reader II: Larry The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

COMMUNION SERVICE

MARGE: The world has not overcome the light. God's light in Jesus still shines brightly, as the motivation for every noble service, the inspiration for compassion and goodwill, the illuminating of purpose, the good of world community and peace.

(Pastor lights candle from Christ candle at altar. Lights Deacons and Student Clergy.)

There is still hope in our world because of the light the baby brought. The light must be extended to penetrate the darkness. What will you do with <u>your</u> light?

(Deacons and SC light first person in each row. Light is passed to all.)

Marge: Go now into the world with the light you have received. Go so that love may be known and peace on earth may truly come in the hearts of all people.

"Silent Night"

Marge: Let your light so shine before the world that all may see your goodworks and give glory to God who is in heaven.

J.D. assist at communion
Marcha " " "

C0VENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

+ + + + + +

Third Sunday in Dominiontide
September 11, 1994
11:00 a.m.

++CALL TO WORSHIP Mark B.

ONE: The law of God is perfect, reviving the soul.

MANY: God's testimony is always sure.

ONE: God's ways are more desirable than gold.

MANY: And sweeter than honey on the tongue.

++OPENING HYMN
"When Morning Gilds the Skies" (Vss 1-3, 5) 322

++OPENING PRAYER Cliff T.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Allan

OUR GIFTS TO GOD
Our Prayer Offerings Randall
Together, let us pray for:
the people of this congregation
those who suffer and those in trouble
the concerns of our community
the world, its peoples, and its leaders
the church universal -- its leaders, its members and its mission...

Our Tithes and Gifts Emmett
Offertory

++THE DOXOLOGY

INSTALLATION OF DEACON CLIFF TINNEY

HYMN OF DEDICATION
"So Send I You" (Vss 1, 2, 5) Printed

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT Peg
CHILDREN'S CHURCH (First Floor-Familyship Hall)

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES
Proverbs 1:20-33
James 3: 1-12
Mark 8: 27-38

ANTHEM The Choir

SERMON
"Taking Up the Cross" Rev. Marge Ragona

THE COLLECT CALL TO CONFESSION
God, you have provided everything we need, even the means of salvation through Jesus, the Christ. But your ways are not our ways. When you show us your plans and they do not meet with our ideas of what they should be, we reject them and you. We are too good at speaking out of both sides of our mouths when it suits us. God, have mercy on us. Rescue us from our hidden faults; keep us from errors we do not even recognize, that we might draw nearer to you once more. Hear now our silent confessions...

CHRIST'S PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON
In Christ we are given new life; the old is gone away, the new is before us. We are freed to live fully in the present. That is the good news that sets us free to love and be loved.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING John Hankins

Celebrant: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to God.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution

THE MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH
Christ has died.
Christ is risen
Christ will come again.

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT
Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

++THE CLOSING HYMN
"Take My Life and Let it Be" 458

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++CHORAL RESPONSE

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+ + + + +

WELCOME VISITORS
Your presence here this morning is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

"Healing Grief and Loss"	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Monday, September 12, 7:00 p.m.
Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 13
Gay Parents Group meets at the church (downstairs).
Excel Sharing with Friends (upstairs in chapel).

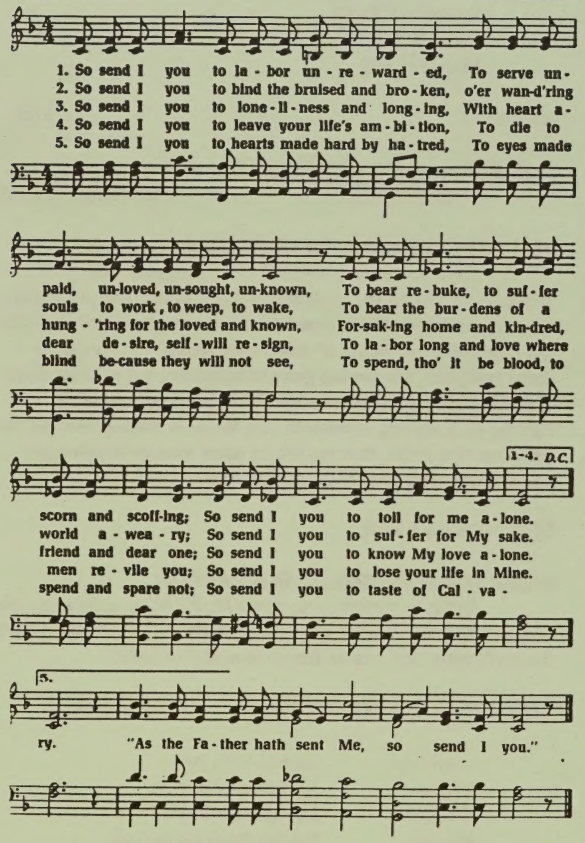
Today is Member Appreciation Day. To all members, thank you for your faithfulness in supporting the work of Covenant MCC. You are the church and we could not exist without you.

Sunday, September 25, at 11:00 a.m. Installation Service for our pastor, Rev. Marge Ragona. Rev. Jay Neely, District Coordinator will preside at the installation and be the preacher for this service.

Remember BAO. This week's need is beef stew or chicken and dumplings (canned). Jesus said, "Inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these... you have done it unto me."

So Send I You

Margaret Clarkson — John W. Peterson



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MCC
Covenant Metropolitan Community Church
(205)599-3363 5117 First Avenue, North P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 35210

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy
Andy Mullins, Student Clergy
Greg Bullard, Student Clergy (Huntsville)

Evening Worship
October 2, 1994
7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: In truth and in love, God has called us unto this house of worship. God has said to us,

MANY: **"You are my people, I am your God."**

ONE: Not once, but again and again, the word is spoken, and there is rejoicing over all the earth. The words ring out with a glad cry:

MANY: **"You are my people, I am your God. You are my people, close to my heart."**

ONE: Come, O people of God; let us be glad as we sing God's praises; for our creator and redeemer has said:

MANY: **"You are my people, I am your God. You are my people, close to my heart."**

LEADER: With awe and wonder, in the spirit of grace, we lift our voices unto the God of creation, who redeems us and keeps us by the power of grace which comes from the God we worship this day.

++THE OPENING HYMN
"Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" 87

++THE OPENING PRAYER

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

++THE HYMN OF CELEBRATION
"Little Is Much" 512

THE EVENING OFFERING
++THE DOXOLOGY

READINGS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURES
II Kings 5: 1-15
Ephesians 4:11-16
John 20: 19-23

SPECIAL MUSIC Mark C.

THE SERMON
"Can she? Could he? Will you?" John Hankins

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION
CHRIST'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION Rev. Ragona
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

CLOSING HYMN
"Getting Used to the Family of God" 548

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE
++THE BENEDICTION
++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+ + + +

WELCOME VISITORS! Your presence here this evening is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

"Healing Codependency"	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Remember BAO. This week's need is for tuna and salmon, noodles, and mushroom soup. Jesus said, "Inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these, you have done it unto me."

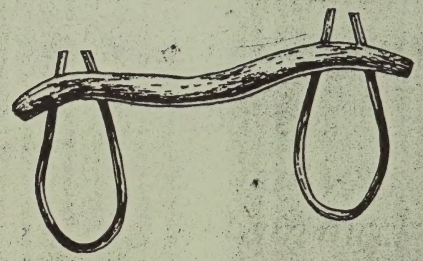
Monday, October 3rd: Inquirer's Class, 7:00 p.m. "Faith."
All who are interested are invited to participate in these classes. You are not obligated to join the church, if you take the class; but if you wish to become a member, the classes are required.

Monday, October 3rd:.7:00 p.m. Parents' Group. Meets upstairs in the small chapel above Fellowship Hall.

Tuesday, October 4: Council of Ministries.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR. October 9th is Fellowship Sunday. This marks the 26th anniversary of the founding of UFMCC. All of the music will be music written by MCC people or for MCC churches and a special offering will be taken for the Fellowship.

District Conference, Wilmington, N.C. (on the beach), November 11, 12, 13.
See Steve Parker for information.
Registration forms are in the lobby.



Come to me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.
Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.
For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Matthew 11:28-30

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(205)599-3363 5117 First Avenue, North P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 35210

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy
Greg Bullard, Student Clergy (Huntsville)

Evening Worship
September 25. 1994
7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Because God is on our side,

MANY: **We have been saved from despair.**

ONE: Our help is in the name of our God.

MANY: Who made heaven and earth.

++THE OPENING HYMN
"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" 319

++THE OPENING PRAYER

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HYMN OF CELEBRATION
"Sweet Hour of Prayer" 439

THE EVENING OFFERING

++THE DOXOLOGY

READINGS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURES
Esther 7:1-10, 9: 20-22
James 5: 13-20
Mark 9: 38-50

SPECIAL MUSIC Dennis

THE SERMON
"For Such a Time As This" Rev. Ragona

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

CHRIST'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
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Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

CLOSING HYMN
"O Zion, Haste, Thy Mission High Fulfilling" 658

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+ + + +

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Choir Praise	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tonight we recognize our clergy and student clergy on Clergy Appreciation Day. Special thanks to John Hankins, who went beyond the call for student clergy during Cliff's illness and served very much as our associate pastor.

Thanks to everyone who made the Installation Service and Reception so very special. To everyone who prepared food or brought deserts, thank you. A special thank you to Bob Tyler for the very beautifully decorated Refreshments will be available in the Fellowship Hall this evening after service.

Remember BAO. This week's need is for Ensure, Instant Breakfast, and other liquid meals. Jesus said, "Inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these, you have done it unto me."

Tonight, beginning at 9:00 p.m., there will be a benefit for BAO at the 22nd Street Jazz Cafe. Everyone is welcome to attend. The door charge is $3.00.

Monday, September 26: Staff/Deacon's Meeting.

Tuesday, September 27: Deacon Training. This special series of classes is open only to deacons, deacons in training and staff.

Saturday, October 1, beginning 10:00 a.m. Budget and Calendar Planning for the next year. If you have an item that will require funding in 1995, or something that needs to be on the calendar, please be at this meeting.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR. October 9th is Fellowship Sunday. This marks the 26th anniversary of the founding of UFMCC. All of the music will be music written by MCC people or for MCC churches and a special offering will be taken for the Fellowship.

God,

grant me the serenity
to accept the things
I cannot change,

the courage to change the things
I can change,

and the wisdom
to know the difference.

Reinhold Niebuhr

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C0VENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

+ + + + + +

Second Sunday in Dominiontide
September 4, 1994
11:00 a.m.

++CALL TO WORSHIP Mark B.

ONE: Those who trust in God cannot be moved, but abide forever.

MANY: Our help is in the name of God, who made heaven and earth.

++OPENING HYMN
O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing 349

++OPENING PRAYER Cliff T.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Mark M.

OUR GIFTS TO GOD
Our Prayer Offerings Randall
Together, let us pray for:
the people of this congregation
those who suffer and those in trouble
the concerns of our community
the world, its peoples, and its leaders
the church universal -- its leaders, its members and its mission...

Our Tithes and Gifts Emmett
Offertory

++THE DOXOLOGY

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT Peg
CHILDREN'S CHURCH (First Floor-Familyship Hall)

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES
Proverbs 22: 1-2, 8-9, 22-23
James 2: 1-10, 14-17
Mark 7: 24-37

ANTHEM The Choir

SERMON
"All Are One in Christ" Rev. Marge Ragona

THE COLLECT CALL TO CONFESSION
In your eyes, O God, all are equal. You have called us to love our neighbors as ourselves. You have shown your love for the poor in providing for their needs; but we are a weak and selfish people. Rather than seeing each person as your precious child, we look upon the outward appearance and give honor to those who meet the world's standard of success. Have mercy upon us for all our sins of discrimination and own us as your people once more. Hear now our silent confessions...

CHRIST'S PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON
In Christ we are given new life; the old is gone away, the new is before us. We are freed to live fully in the present. That is the good news that sets us free to love and be loved.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Cliff T.

Celebrant: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to God.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution

THE MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH
Christ has died.
Christ is risen
Christ will come again.

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT
Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

++THE CLOSING HYMN
Yes, All Are One in Christ Printed

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++CHORAL RESPONSE

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+ + + + +

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TUESDAY

Choir Praise	6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

"Healing Grief and Loss"	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

We thank everyone who called or came to the hospital to check on Shirley Lambert's condition. You are wonderful, you are family and we love every one of you. Shirley is recovering from surgery and will probably go home today or tomorrow.

Tuesday, September 6, 7:30 p.m.

Council of Ministries Meeting. Anyone interested in leading Hospitality Committee or the Evangelism Committee is welcome to join us and find out what these two committees do in the church. We need everyone present for fall planning.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10. All day retreat at Cheaha Mountain State Park. All are invited. Pick up a flyer in the vestibule.

Sunday, September 11 at 11:00 a.m. is Member Appreciation Sunday; please be present for this special day in the life of our church. Also, Deacon Cliff Tinney will be installed.

Sunday, September 25, at 11:00 a.m. Installation Service for our pastor, Rev. Marge Ragona. Rev. Jay Neely, District Coordinator will preside at the installation and be the preacher for this service.

YES, ALL ARE ONE IN CHRIST

Yes, all are one in Christ
Whose one baptism share;
Not Jew or Gentile, slave or free,
Not male or female be.

In Christ all barriers fall,
One people – all are we;
The children of bright promises,
Christ comes to make us free.

The gift of life we share,
The chains of slavery fall;
And women, men from every land
Give answer to Christ's call.

So stand in Christ and live
The life of faith and love;
Sing, "All are one in Christ who leads
To joy here and above."

Tune: "Rise Up, O Men of God"

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

(205)599-3363 5117 First Avenue, North P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 35210

COVENANTING CEREMONY FOR REV. MARGE RAGONA AND COVENANT MCC, BIRMINGHAM

DENNIS LUFT: My sister, the church is the family of God, the body of Christ, and the temple of the Holy Spirit. All baptized people are called to make Christ known as savior and redeemer, and to share in the renewing of God's world. Now you are called to work as a pastor, priest, and teacher together with your congregation and to take your share in the councils of the church.

As a pastor, it will be your task to proclaim by word and deed the gospel of Jesus, the Christ, and to fashion your life in accordance with its precepts. You are to love and serve the people among whom you work, caring alike for young and old, strong and weak, rich and poor. You are to preach, to declare God's forgiveness, to pronounce God's blessing, to administer Holy Baptism, celebrate Holy Communion, and to perform the other ministries entrusted to you.

In all that you do, you are to nourish Christ's people from the riches of God's grace, and strengthen them to glorify God in this life and in the life to come.

JOHN HANKINS: My sister, do you believe that you are truly called by God and by God's holy church to this priesthood?

REV. RAGONA: I believe I am so called.

JOHN HANKINS: Do you now in the presence of the church commit yourself to this trust and responsibility?

REV. RAGONA: I do.

ANDY MULLINS: Will you be diligent in the reading and study of the Holy Scriptures and in seeking the knowledge of such things as may make you a stronger and more able minister of Christ?

REV. RAGONA: I will.

ANDY MULLINS: Will you endeavor to minister the word of God and the sacraments of the new covenant, so that the reconciling love of Christ may be known and received?

REV, RAGONA: I will.

GREG BULLARD: Will you undertake to be a faithful pastor to all whom you are called to serve, laboring together with them and with your fellow ministers to build up the family of God?

REV, RAGONA: I will.

GREG BULLARD: Will you do your best to pattern your life in accordance with the teachings of Christ, so that you may be an example to your people?

REV. RAGONA: I will.

KAY HENDRIX: Will you persevere in prayer, both in public and in private, asking God's grace both for yourself and for others, offering all your labors to God, through the mediation of Jesus Christ and in the sanctification of the Holy Spirit.

REV. RAGONA: I will.

KAY HENDRIX: May God, the Creator, who has given you the will to do these things, give you the grace and power to perform them.

REV. RAGONA: Amen.

THE INSTITUTION

REV. NEELY: We have come together today to covenant with Rev. Marge Ragona who has been chosen to serve as pastor of Covenant Metropolitan Community Church. We believe that she is well qualified and that she has been prayerfully and lawfully selected.

Rev. Ragona, do you, in the presence of this congregation, commit yourself to this new trust and responsibility?

REV, RAGONA: I do.

REV, NEELY: Will you, the congregation of Covenant Metropolitan Community Church, who witness this new beginning, support and uphold Rev. Ragona in this ministry?

CONGREGATION: We will.

REV. NEELY: Everliving God, strengthen and sustain Rev. Ragona, that with patience and understanding, she may love and care for your people and grant that together they may follow Jesus Christ, offering to you their gifts and talents through Christ, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God for ever and ever, Amen.

THE INDUCTION (After each presentation, Rev. Ragona responds with "I will.")

EMMETT WRIGHT: Rev. Ragona, accept this Bible and be among us as one who proclaims the word.

DENNIS LUFT: Rev. Ragona, take this water and baptize, in obedience to the command of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

SALLY OR SHIRLEY COOPER: Rev. Ragona, receive this book of prayer, and be among us as a person of prayer.

GREG ADAMS: Rev. Ragona, use this oil and be among us as a healer and reconciler.

ALLAN FRANCIS: Rev. Ragona, receive these keys, and let the doors of our church be open to all people.

REV. NEELY: Obey these by-laws and be among us to share in the councils of this district and fellowship.

CAL MCCLOSKEY/CLIFF TINNEY: Take this bread and wine and be among us to break the bread and bless the cup.

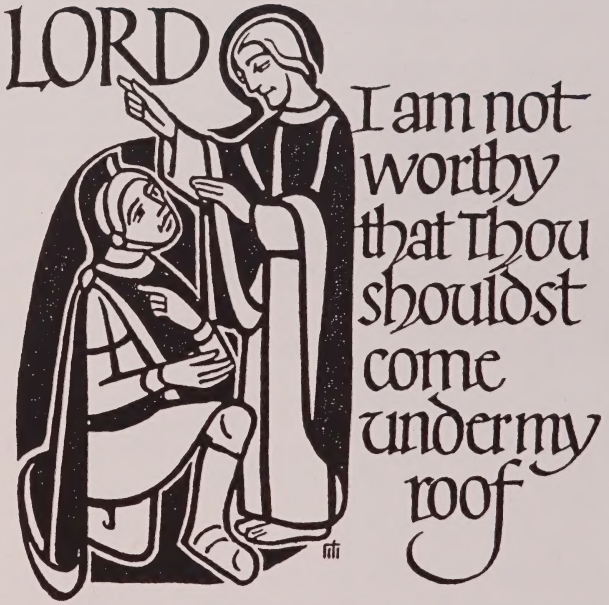
KAY HENDRIX AND SHIRLEY COOPER: Rev. Ragona, accept this chasuble and be among us to celebrate communion at the altar. Let the invitation to feast at God's table be open to all people.

JOHN HANKINS: Rev. Ragona, receive this stole and be among us as pastor and priest.

PRAYER OF ACCEPTANCE

REV. RAGONA: Loving Jesus, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof, yet you have called your servant to stand in the house of God and to serve at this altar. To you and to God's service, I devote myself, my body, soul and spirit. Fill my memory with your mighty works . Enlighten my understanding with the light of your Holy Spirit, and may all the desires of my heart and will center in what you would have me do. Make me an instrument of your salvation for the people entrusted to my care, and grant that I may faithfully administer your holy sacraments, and by my life and teaching set forth your true living word. Be always with me in carrying out the duties of my ministry. In prayer, quicken my devotion, in praises, heighten my love and gratitude. In preaching, give me readiness of thought and expression, and grant that, by the clearness and brightness of your Holy Word, all the world may be drawn into your blessed realm. All this I ask for your sake. Amen.

LAYING ON OF HANDS AND FINAL PRAYER.



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C0VENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

+ + + + + +

Fourth Sunday in Dominiontide
September 25, 1994
11:00 a.m.

++CALL TO WORSHIP Cliff T.

ONE: God, you have turned toward your people and opened your heart to your children.
MANY: So, O God, we turn to you now.
ONE: We turn to you for purpose and healing, for joy and peace; for a way out of hopeless situations.
MANY: We turn to you for justice, for forgiveness, for love.
ONE: We turn to you, O God, for all things offered through Jesus the Christ, the maker of redemption and the bringer of hope.
MANY: Amen.

++OPENING HYMN
"When Morning Gilds the Skies" 322

++OPENING PRAYER John Hankins

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Dennis

OUR GIFTS TO GOD
Our Prayer Offerings Randall
Together, let us pray for:
the people of this congregation
those who suffer and those in trouble
the concerns of our community
the world, its peoples, and its leaders
the church universal -- its leaders, its members and its mission...

Our Tithes and Gifts Dennis
Offertory

++THE DOXOLOGY

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT Peg
CHILDREN'S CHURCH (First Floor-Familyship Hall)

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES
Isaiah 6: 1-8
Matthew 5: 13-16
Colossians 3: 8-14

ANTHEM The Choir

SERMON Rev. Jay Neely
"Such Are the People Who Come to God"

SERVICE OF INSTALLATION OF THE PASTOR,
Rev. Marge Ragona by Rev. Jay Neely, Dictrict Coordinator, Gulf-Lower Atlantic District, Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches.

HYMN OF DEDICATION
Here I Am, Lord Printed

THE COLLECT CALL TO CONFESSION
O God, our God, we celebrate the new life which you have given us. We have experienced broken lives made whole, old wounds of alienation healed over, and tired spirits rejuvenated with new vision. Gracious God, we are so grateful for the purpose and possibilities you have placed before us. Yet, there are times when doubt has overcome hope, cynicism has replaced dedication, the world's values have captured us more than yours. Forgive us those times, we pray. Help us let go of the past, that we might move joyfully into a new future that points to your love and justice. Hear now our silent confessions...

CHRIST'S PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON
In Christ we are given new life; the old is gone away, the new is before us. We are freed to live fully in the present. That is the good news that sets us free to love and be loved.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Rev. Marge Ragona

Celebrant: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to God.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution

THE MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH
Christ has died.
Christ is risen
Christ will come again.

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT
Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

++THE CLOSING HYMN
"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You" Printed

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++CHORAL RESPONSE

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE
+ + + + +

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TUESDAY

Choir Praise	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today, our speaker is Rev. Jay Neely, District Coordinator for the G.L.A.D. District, UFMCC, who will install Rev. Marge Ragona as pastor.

Remember BAO. This week's need is for Ensure, Instant Breakfast, and other liquid meals. Jesus said, "Inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these, you have done it unto me."

Monday, September 26: Staff/Deacon's Meeting.

Tuesday, September 27: Deacon Training. This special series of classes is open only to deacons, deacons in training and staff.

Saturday, October 1, beginning 10:00 a.m. Budget and Calendar Planning for the next year. If you have an item that will require funding in 1995, or something that needs to be on the calendar, please be at this meeting.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR. October 9th is Fellowship Sunday. This marks the 26th anniversary of the founding of UFMCC. All of the music will be music written by MCC people or for MCC churches and a special offering will be taken for the Fellowship.

JOYFUL, JOYFUL, WE ADORE THEE

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, God of love.
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee,
Earth and heaven reflect thy rays.
Stars and angels sing around thee,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain,
Call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Wellspring of the joy of living,
Ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Maker and Redeemer,
All who live in love are thine;
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals join the mighty chorus
Which the morning stars began;
Love divine is reigning o'er us
Binding all within its span.
Ever singing, march we onward,
Victors in the midst of strife;
Joyful music leads us sunward,
In the triumph song of life.

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HERE I AM, LORD

I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
My hand will save.
I Who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Refrain: Here I am Lord.
Is it I Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord,
If you lead me.
I will hold your people in my hand.

I, the Lord of snow and rain
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send? (Refrain)

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send? (Refrain)

HERE I AM, LORD

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All who dwell in dark and sin
My hand will save.
I Who made the stars of night,
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WEDNESDAY

"Healing Codependency"	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sixteen people decided they were codependent. Come Wednesday and find out if *you* are!!

Remember BAO. This week's need is for beef stew, chicken and dumplings, or chunky soup. Jesus said, "Inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these, you have done it unto me."

Monday, October 10, 7:00 p.m. Board Meeting, upstairs in chapel.
Also, 7:00 p.m. Inquirer's Class, "Polity." All who are interested are invited to participate in these classes. You are not obligated to join the church if you take the class; but if you wish to become a member, the classes are required.

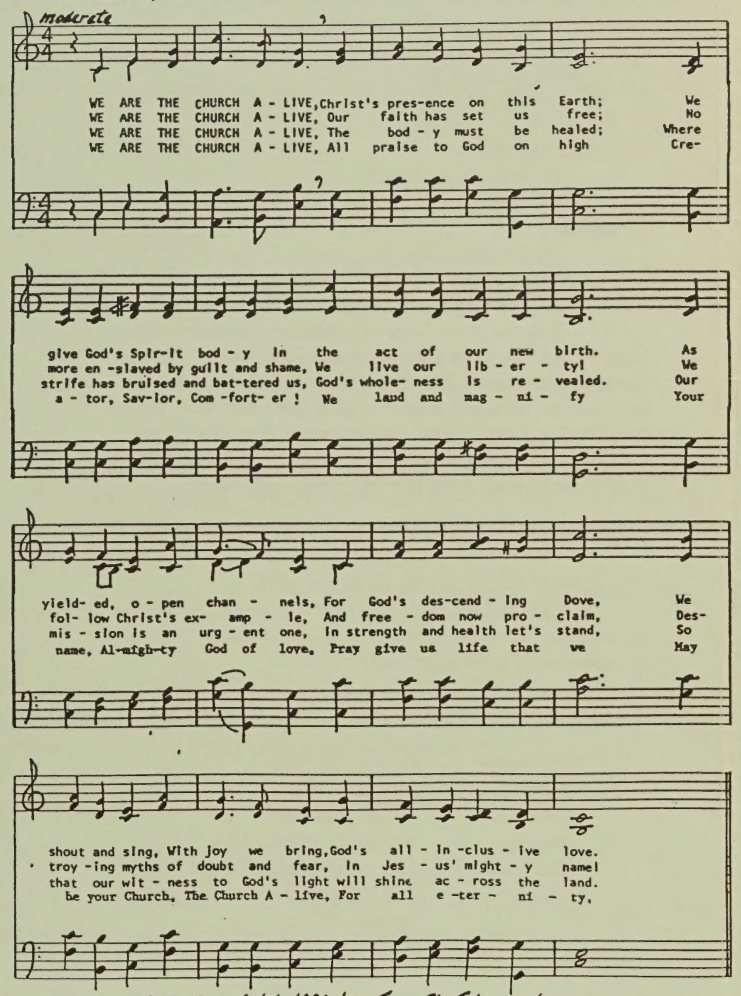
Tuesday, October 11: Finance Committee Meeting.

Today is Fellowship Sunday, marking the 26th anniversary of the founding of UFMCC. All of the music will be by MCC people or for MCC churches. In your bulletin is a special flyer on World Church Extension and an envelope. You may insert your offering in the envelope and place it in the offering plate, or take the envelope home and mail it (without stamps) to the Fellowship.

District Conference, Wilmington, N.C. (on the beach), November 11, 12, 13. See Steve Parker for information. Registration forms are in the lobby.

THE CHURCH ALIVE!

words and music by Jack St. John — additional words by David H. Pelletier



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"For He Had Great Possessions" (by G. F. Watts, 1894)
©C. E. Visminas

MCC
Covenant Metropolitan Community Church
(205)599-3363 5117 First Avenue, North P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 35210

C0VENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy
Andy Mullins, Student Clergy

+ + + + + +

Seventh Sunday in Dominiontide
October 9, 1994
11:00 a.m.

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: God is holy; God is enthroned on the praises of Israel.
MANY: Our forebears trusted in God; they trusted as God delivered them.
ONE: Let our feet hold fast to the ways of God.
MANY: And treasure God's word in our hearts.

++OPENING HYMN
"The Church Alive" Printed

++OPENING PRAYER John Hankins

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Sally

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Our Prayer Offerings Randall
Together, let us pray for:
the people of this congregation
those who suffer and those in trouble
the concerns of our community
the world, its peoples, and its leaders
the church universal -- its leaders, its members and its mission...

Our Tithes and Gifts Sally
Offertory

++THE DOXOLOGY

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT Rick
CHILDREN'S CHURCH (First Floor-Familyship Hall)

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES
Job 23: 1-9, 16-17
Hebrews 4: 12-16
Mark 10: 17-31

SPECIAL MUSIC Choir
"For Those Tears I Died"

SERMON Rev. Ragona
"It's Not That Simple Anymore"

THE COLLECT CALL TO CONFESSION

God, you meet every need and provide for us out of your abundance. You give us far more than we ask for by promising us eternal life. Yet we are easily led astray. We become very attached to the things of this earth and put our trust in them; then we are disappointed when they do not satisfy. For putting temporal things above heavenly things, forgive us, O God. Hear now our silent confessions...

CHRIST'S PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON

God's steadfast love is before us as we seek to walk in faithfulness. Know that in that love you are forgiven. This day you are freed to walk in newness of life.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING **Deacon Cal**

Celebrant: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to God.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution

THE MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH
Christ has died.
Christ is risen
Christ will come again.

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT
Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

++THE CLOSING HYMN
"I'm Not Afraid Anymore" Printed

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION
One: God go with you.
Many: **And also with you.**

++CHORAL RESPONSE

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+ + + + +

WELCOME VISITORS

Your presence here this morning is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

Congregational Prayer

Wondrous God, we adore You for sending Your Son to travel the roads of human life and experience the tensions between friends and enemies, relatives and strangers, laborers and managers. Equip us with the determination to live in love of everyone, so that as Jesus' disciples today we follow Him in applying the gospel to life. Amen.

Scripture Readings

Proverbs 30:2-4
James 3:13-4:3
Mark 9:30-37

Gloria

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Creator and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Anthem

Spiritual Instruction

Presentaton of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

WE GIVE THEE BUT THINE OWN

We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be; All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord from Thee.

May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive, And gladly as Thou blessest us, To Thee our first-fruits give. Amen.

Call to Worship

One: The wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure;
Many: Then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial, and sincere.

One: The Scripture says, "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble."
Many: Submit yourselves, then, to God. Come near to God and God will come near to you.

Processional

WE'RE MARCHING TO ZION

Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known, Join in a song with sweet accord, Join in a song with sweet accord and thus surround the throne, and thus surround the throne.

Refrain:
We're marching to Zion, Beautiful, beautiful Zion; We're marching upward to Zion, The beautiful city of God.

Let those refuse to sing Who never knew our God, But children of the heav'nly King, But children of the heav'nly King may speak their joys abroad, may speak their joys abroad. (Refrain)

The hill of Zion yields A thousand sacred sweets, Before we reach the heav'nly fields, before we reach the heav'nly fields or walk the golden streets, or walk the golden streets. (Refrain)

Then let our songs abound and every tear be dry; We're marching thro' Immanuel's ground, We're marching thro' Immanuel's ground, to fairer worlds on high, to fairer worlds on high. (Refrain) Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

Que Pasa

Holy Cross Metropolitan Community Church
415 N. Alcaniz St. Pensacola, FL 32501 (904) 433-8528

Sep 18, 1994

CALENDAR

Today	Choir Practice	9:30 am
	Worship	11:00 am
	Board Meeting	12:45 pm
Wednesday	Bible Study	7:00 pm
Friday	Gay AA	7:30 pm
Saturday	Sock Hop	8:00 pm
TBA	Choir Practice	TBA

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday - Friday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Connie Duett	Vice-Moderator/Clerk
Ken Dayton	Treasurer
Cindy Painter	Member
Wayne Coleman	Member

SOCK HOP

On Saturday the 24th at 8:00 pm we will be having our first ever Sock Hop!! If you were around at that time when this type of party was popular and kept some of the fashions of the day, break them out! Mark will be providing the music (so you know it's going to be good). We will also have light refreshments during the dance. Psst! Rumor has it that Elvis has been known to show up at this type of event. Bring your date, call your friends and lets have a good time!

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Everything is in place to start the Sunday Bible School session for fall '94. Today all the interested young folks will meet with Peggy downstairs at 11:00 am. This time will be used to lay the basic ground rules. The first class will be on the 25th (next Sunday). If you have not "enrolled" yet, see Peggy ASAP for we need to order the supplies that they will need.

SOCIAL HOUR

We still need someone to take the responsibility of starting coffee on Sunday mornings. We may not realize this, but there are **many** who travel 1 hr each way to worship with us. The least we can do is to provide them with some refreshment.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sat. September 24, Sock Hop
Sat. October 1, Bazaar
Fri., Sat., Sun. Oct. 28, 29, 30, Spiritual Renewal
Thurs. November 24, Thanksgiving Dinner
Thurs. December 1, World AIDS Day
Fri. December 9, Christmas Party
Fri. December 16, Christmas Cantata
Sat. December 24, Christmas Eve Service
Sun. December 25, Christmas Service
Sun. January 1, 1995, New Year Service

BAZAAR

As has been announced for many weeks, the Bazaar will take place on Saturday Oct 1, from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm. This is the first time we have attempted something this involved. There will be booths for crafts and food and a gigantic rummage sale!!! Because of the length of time involved, Marcia needs **many** assistants. It will be advertised in the paper and we will post fliers around town, but the best publicity we can get is your word of mouth advertising. (You know the old saying tele-phone, tell a ...) If you have not yet brought your stuff to be sold at this event, please feel free to bring it next Sunday.

CAN WE TALK

As we can see, we are growing and as a result we have more people traffic and more activities. Because of the increased number of activities the building now needs to cleaned more frequently. Help us put together a clean team which will make the church look good for all to enjoy.

FISCAL AFFAIRS

The following is a list of current bills:

Gulf Power	248.58
Last Week:	
Tithe and Offering	1804.75
Building Fund	<221.00>
UFMCC, SE District, & WCE	<253.40>
Board of Pensions	<10.00>
Total	1320.35
Attendance:	77

IN THIS QUIET MOMENT

In this quiet moment, Jesus, speak to me. Fill my heart with Thy love divine, Your power let me see.

WE ARE SO BLESSED

We are so blessed by the gifts from Your hand, I just can't understand why You've loved us to much.

We are so blessed, we just can't find a way or the words that can say, Thank You, Lord, for Your touch.

When we're empty You fill us 'Til we overflow, When we're hungry You feed us and cause us to know;

We are so blessed, take what we have to bring, Take it all, ev'rthing, Lord, we love You so much.

MY JESUS, I LOVE THEE

My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine, For Thee all the follies of sin I resign; My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art Thou; If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

COME, HOLY SPIRIT

Come as a rest to the weary, Come as a balm for the sore, Come as a dew to my dryness; Fill me with joy evermore.

Refrain:
Come, Holy Spirit, I need You, Come, sweet Spirit, I pray; Come in Your strength and Your power, Come in Your own gentle way.

Come like a spring in the desert, Come to the withered of soul; O let Your sweet healing power touch me and make me whole. (Refrain)

HOLY IS THE LORD OF HOSTS

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of Your glory, the whole earth is full of Your glory, the whole earth is full of Your glory; Holy is the Lord, Holy is the Lord, holy is the Lord.

Celebration of Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

One: The Lord is with you.
Many: And also with you.
One: Lift up your hearts.
Many: We lift them up to the Lord.
One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
Many: It is God who has made us and not we ourselves, we are the sheep of God's pasture, therefore it right to give our shepherd thanks and praise.

The Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The Mystery of Our Faith

Christ has died
Christ is risen
Christ will come again

The Prayer That Jesus Taught

Our creator, Whom we are a part of, hallowed be Thy name. Thy dominion come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the dominion, and Thine is the power, and Thine is the glory, forever and ever. Amen!

Distribution of Communion

Holy Communion at Holy Cross MCC is open to all believers. You need not be a member of this church or any organized religion to feed here at the table of the Lord.
Out of respect for those in recovery, we serve from a non-fermented cup.
Please allow the ushers to assist you.

Communion Hymns (in blue hymnal)
The Healer
#463 - Precious Lord, Take My Hand
#385 - Near the Cross

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Benediction

Continuing Hymn of Praise
The Lord is building Jerusalem, the Lord is building Jerusalem, gathering together the outcasts of Israel, healing broken hearts, binding up their wounds. The Lord is building, the Lord is building up Jerusalem.

To Our Visitors
Your presence here honors us and brings us great joy. We pray that you will be able to nestle in for a time of joy, peace, comfort, and love as we worship God together. After worship join us during our fellowship hour and make yourself known by introducing yourself to others. If you have any questions about our church, please feel free to seek out any of the members of the Board of Directors or Staff.

Thought for the Week
The devil is willing for you to confess faith as long as you don't practice it. When praying, we must simultaneously be willing to take the action that God directs in the answer to our prayer. The answers to your prayers will include action.

Go in peace, God is with you always!
Music used by permission CCLI License #707498

Holy Cross
Metropolitan Community Church

415 N. Alcaniz St. Pensacola, FL 32501 (904) 433-8528

11:00 am September 18, 1994

Opening

Praise and Worship

GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father, There is no shadow of turning with Thee; Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not; As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

Chorus:
Great is Thy faithfulness, Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; All I have needed Thy hand hath provided - Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me! (Repeat chorus)

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

To God be the glory - great things God hath done! So loved God the world that God gave us The Son, who yielded His life an antonement for sin And opened the Lifegate that all may go in.

Refrain:
Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord, Let the earth hear God's voice! Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord, Let the people rejoice! O come to the Parent thru Jesus the Son, And give God the glory - great things God hath done!

LEAD ME, LORD/I LOVE YOU, LORD

Lead me, Lord, lead me in Thy righteousness; make Thy way plain before my face. For it is Thou, Lord, Thou, Lord, only, that makest me dwell in safety.

I love You, Lord, and I lift my voice to worship You, O my soul, rejoice! Take joy my Lord, in what You hear; may it be a sweet, sweet sound in Your ear.

C0VENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

+ + + + + +

First Sunday in Dominiontide
August 28, 1994
11:00 a.m.

++CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Let our hearts overflow when we speak to God.

MANY: God pours grace upon our lips.

ONE: The chosen one of God delivers those in need.

MANY: And their lives are saved in mercy.

++OPENING HYMN
For the Beauty of the Earth 1

++OPENING PRAYER Andy Mullins

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Dennis

OUR GIFTS TO GOD
Our Prayer Offerings
Together, let us pray for:
the people of this congregation
those who suffer and those in trouble
the concerns of our community
the world, its peoples, and its leaders
the church universal -- its leaders, its members and its mission...

Our Tithes and Gifts Dennis
Offertory

++THE DOXOLOGY

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT

CHILDREN'S CHURCH (First Floor-Familyship Hall)

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES
Psalm 15
James 1:17-27
Mark 7:1-8

ANTHEM The Choir

THE SERMON
"It Takes Work" John Hankins

THE COLLECT CALL TO CONFESSION
God, your precepts are filled with mercy and justice. In every act you bless us with goodness. You call on us to honor you, but we do so only with our lips. Instead of worshipping you, we take the ways of the world and conform ourselves to them. We leave your commandments and hold to that which is most convenient. Search our hearts and make us anew into your image, that your love may once more call us away from death into your life. Hear now our silent confessions...

CHRIST'S PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON
The good news in Christ is that God offers us life at every moment, forgiving us and inviting us to the freshness of new beginnings. Let us accept forgiveness and praise the God of infinite love and grace.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Andy Mullins

Celebrant: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to God.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution

THE MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH
Christ has died.
Christ is risen
Christ will come again.

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT
Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

++THE CLOSING HYMN
I Am Thine, O Lord 455

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++CHORAL RESPONSE

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+ + + + +

WELCOME VISITORS
Your presence here this morning is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

"Healing Grief and Loss"	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanks to everyone who helped with Christmas diuner. It was all delicious and special thanks to the clean-up crew.

Many in church leadership are at Excel of the Rainbow Zebra this weekend, and will be back in time for evening worship.

We welcome Cliff Tinney to the diaconate. He will be installed on September 11th.

Mark your calendar. Covenant Fall Retreat, September 10th, at Cheaha State Park. Plans are underway now. Bring your family, significant other, or a friend. Baptism by immersion, spiritual growth, fun, and a day in the mountains, y'all come!

Mark your calendar. Member Appreciation Day, September 11th. Be here for a special service honoring our members.

Our pastor will be installed on September 25th. Rev. Jay Neely, the District Coordinator will be preaching that Sunday.

BAO Food Collection: This Sunday, Carnation (or other) Instant Breakfast or Ensure Plus, similar products. Next Sunday, tuna fish, salmon.

mcc

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

C0VENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

+ + + + + +

Second Sunday in Dominiontide
September 4, 1994
11:00 a.m.

++CALL TO WORSHIP Mark B.

ONE: Those who trust in God cannot be moved, but abide forever.

MANY: Our help is in the name of God, who made heaven and earth.

++OPENING HYMN
O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing 349

++OPENING PRAYER Cliff T.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Mark M.

OUR GIFTS TO GOD
Our Prayer Offerings Randall
Together, let us pray for:
the people of this congregation
those who suffer and those in trouble
the concerns of our community
the world, its peoples, and its leaders
the church universal -- its leaders, its members and its mission...

Our Tithes and Gifts Emmett
Offertory

++THE DOXOLOGY

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT Peg
CHILDREN'S CHURCH (First Floor-Familyship Hall)

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES
Proverbs 22: 1-2, 8-9, 22-23
James 2: 1-10, 14-17
Mark 7: 24-37

ANTHEM The Choir

SERMON
"All Are One in Christ" Rev. Marge Ragona

THE COLLECT CALL TO CONFESSION
In your eyes, O God, all are equal. You have called us to love our neighbors as ourselves. You have shown your love for the poor in providing for their needs; but we are a weak and selfish people. Rather than seeing each person as your precious child, we look upon the outward appearance and give honor to those who meet the world's standard of success. Have mercy upon us for all our sins of discrimination and own us as your people once more. Hear now our silent confessions...

CHRIST'S PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON
In Christ we are given new life; the old is gone away, the new is before us. We are freed to live fully in the present. That is the good news that sets us free to love and be loved.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Cliff T.

Celebrant: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to God.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

++THE CLOSING HYMN
Yes, All Are One in Christ Printed

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++CHORAL RESPONSE

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+ + + + +

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Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

"Healing Grief and Loss"	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

We thank everyone who called or came to the hospital to check on Shirley Lambert's condition. You are wonderful, you are family and we love every one of you. Shirley is recovering from surgery and will probably go home today or tomorrow.

Tuesday, September 6, 7:30 p.m.

Council of Ministries Meeting. Anyone interested in leading Hospitality Committee or the Evangelism Committee is welcome to join us and find out what these two committees do in the church. We need everyone present for fall planning.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10. All day retreat at Cheaha Mountain State Park. All are invited. Pick up a flyer in the vestibule.

Sunday, September 11 at 11:00 a.m. is Member Appreciation Sunday; please be present for this special day in the life of our church. Also, Deacon Cliff Tinney will be installed.

Sunday, September 25, at 11:00 a.m. Installation Service for our pastor, Rev. Marge Ragona. Rev. Jay Neely, District Coordinator will preside at the installation and be the preacher for this service.

YES, ALL ARE ONE IN CHRIST

Yes, all are one in Christ
Whose one baptism share;
Not Jew or Gentile, slave or free,
Not male or female be.

In Christ all barriers fall,
One people – all are we;
The children of bright promises,
Christ comes to make us free.

The gift of life we share,
The chains of slavery fall;
And women, men from every land
Give answer to Christ's call.

So stand in Christ and live
The life of faith and love;
Sing, "All are one in Christ who leads
To joy here and above."

Tune: "Rise Up, O Men of God"

mcc
Covenant Metropolitan Community Church
(205)599-3363 5117 First Avenue, North P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 35210

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

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WEDNESDAY

"Healing Grief and Loss"	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

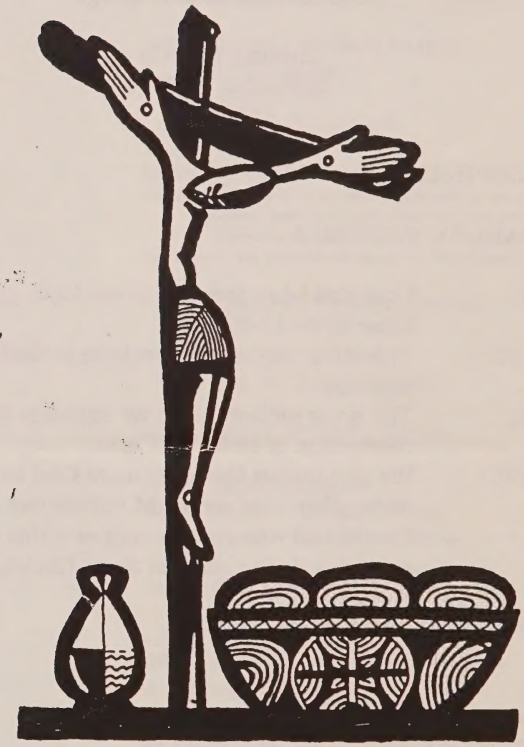
Monday, September 12, 7:00 p.m.
Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 13
Gay Parents Group meets at the church (downstairs).
Excel Sharing with Friends (upstairs in chapel).

Today is Member Appreciation Day. To all members, thank you for your faithfulness in supporting the work of Covenant MCC. You are the church and we could not exist without you.

Sunday, September 25, at 11:00 a.m. Installation Service for our pastor, Rev. Marge Ragona. Rev. Jay Neely, District Coordinator will preside at the installation and be the preacher for this service.

Remember BAO. This week's need is beef stew or chicken and dumplings (canned). Jesus said, "Inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these... you have done it unto me."



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COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

Evening Worship
September 11. 1994
7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: I was glad when they said to me, let us go to the house of the Living God.

MANY: **This is the day when we rejoice in God's act of creation.**

ONE: This is our sabbath, when we rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus, the Christ.

MANY: **We give thanks that once more God has brought us together, that we might refresh one another.**

ALL: **Peace to all who enter here, peace this day and every day, in the name of Jesus Christ.**

THE OPENING HYMN
"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" 21

THE OPENING PRAYER

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HYMN OF CELEBRATION
"He Keeps Me Singing" 587

THE EVENING OFFERING
++THE DOXOLOGY

READINGS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURES
Psalm 23: 6
Romans 3:21-26
Mark 11: 20-21

SPECIAL MUSIC Randall

THE SERMON John Hankins
"First, You Must Forgive Yourself"

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

CHRIST'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION Rev. Marge Ragona
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

CLOSING HYMN
"I Am Thine" 44

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+ + + +

WELCOME VISITORS

Your presence here this evening is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

C0VENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy
Andy Mullins, Student Clergy

+ + + + + +

Seventh Sunday in Dominiontide
October 9, 1994
11:00 a.m.

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: God is holy; God is enthroned on the praises of Israel.
MANY: Our forebears trusted in God; they trusted as God delivered them.
ONE: Let our feet hold fast to the ways of God.
MANY: And treasure God's word in our hearts.

++OPENING HYMN
"The Church Alive" Printed

++OPENING PRAYER John Hankins

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Sally
Prayer Bear

OUR GIFTS TO GOD
Our Prayer Offerings Randall
Together, let us pray for:
the people of this congregation
those who suffer and those in trouble
the concerns of our community
the world, its peoples, and its leaders
the church universal -- its leaders, its members and its mission...

Our Tithes and Gifts Sally
Offertory

++THE DOXOLOGY

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT Rick
CHILDREN'S CHURCH (First Floor-Familyship Hall)

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES
Job 23: 1-9, 16-17
Hebrews 4: 12-16
Mark 10: 17-31

SPECIAL MUSIC Choir
"For Those Tears I Died"

SERMON Rev. Ragona
"It's Not That Simple Anymore"

THE COLLECT CALL TO CONFESSION
God, you meet every need and provide for us out of your abundance. You give us far more than we ask for by promising us eternal life. Yet we are easily led astray. We become very attached to the things of this earth and put our trust in them; then we are disappointed when they do not satisfy. For putting temporal things above heavenly things, forgive us, O God. Hear now our silent confessions...

CHRIST'S PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON
God's steadfast love is before us as we seek to walk in faithfulness. Know that in that love you are forgiven. This day you are freed to walk in newness of life.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING **Deacon Cal**

Celebrant: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to God.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution

THE MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH
Christ has died.
Christ is risen
Christ will come again.

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT
Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

++THE CLOSING HYMN
"I'm Not Afraid Anymore" Printed

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION
One: God go with you.
Many: **And also with you.**

++CHORAL RESPONSE

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE
+ + + + +

WELCOME VISITORS
Your presence here this morning is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

"Healing Codependency"	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sixteen people decided they were codependent. Come Wednesday and find out if *you* are!!

Remember BAO. This week's need is for beef stew, chicken and dumplings, or chunky soup. Jesus said, "Inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these, you have done it unto me."

Monday, October 10, 7:00 p.m. Board Meeting, upstairs in chapel.
Also, 7:00 p.m. Inquirer's Class, "Polity." All who are interested are invited to participate in these classes. You are not obligated to join the church if you take the class; but if you wish to become a member, the classes are required.

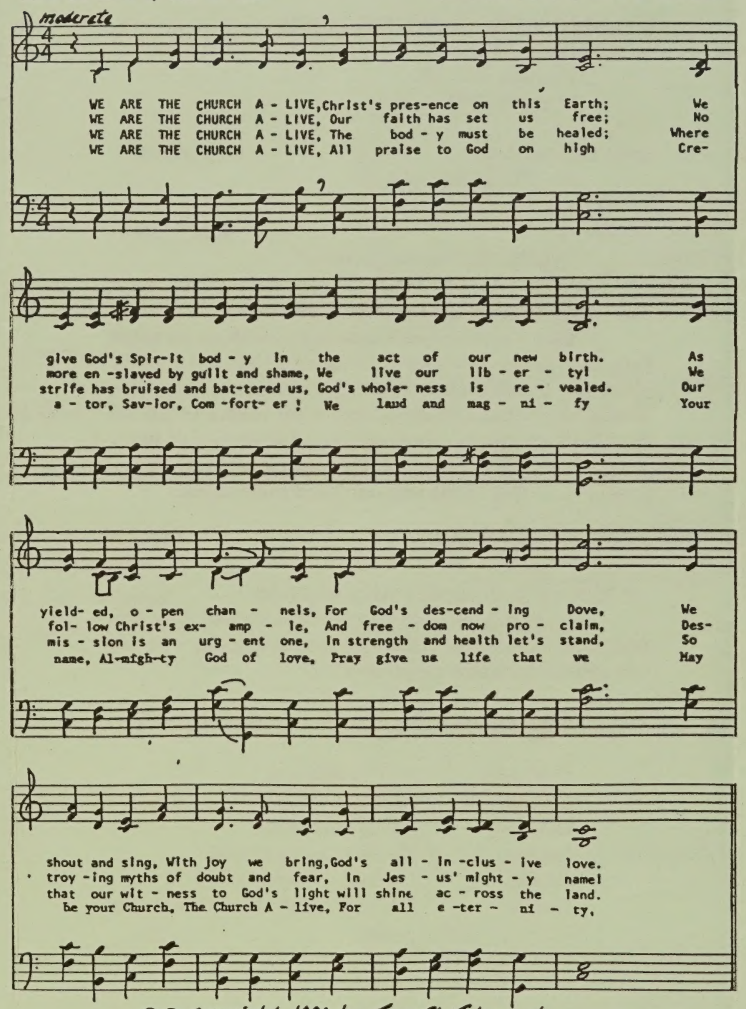
Tuesday, October 11: Finance Committee Meeting.

Today is Fellowship Sunday, marking the 26th anniversary of the founding of UFMCC. All of the music will be by MCC people or for MCC churches. In your bulletin is a special flyer on World Church Extension and an envelope. You may insert your offering in the envelope and place it in the offering plate, or take the envelope home and mail it (without stamps) to the Fellowship.

District Conference, Wilmington, N.C. (on the beach), November 11, 12, 13. See Steve Parker for information. Registration forms are in the lobby.

THE CHURCH ALIVE!

words and music by Jack St. John — additional words by David H. Pelletier



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"For He Had Great Possessions" (by G. F. Watts, 1894)
©C. E. Visminas

MCC
Covenant Metropolitan Community Church
(205)599-3363 5117 First Avenue, North P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 35210

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy
Andy Mullins, Student Clergy
Greg Bullard, Student Clergy (Huntsville)

Evening Worship
October 23, 1994
7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: We give praise and thanks to our God.

MANY: **Who delivers us from futility and from darkened understanding.**

ONE: Who is our hope in hard times --

MANY: **Our mighty and everlasting hope;**

ONE: Who is our joy to please.

MANY: **And our salvation every day.**

TOGETHER: **Come, let us worship our God.**

++THE OPENING HYMN
"Blessed Be the Name" 352

++THE OPENING PRAYER

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

++THE HYMN OF CELEBRATION
"All the Way My Savior Leads Me" 598

THE EVENING OFFERING
++THE DOXOLOGY

READINGS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURES
Exodus 1: 8-22
II Corinthians 12: 6-10
Luke 9:51-52

SPECIAL MUSIC Dennis

THE SERMON Rev. Marge Ragona

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION
CHRIST'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION Rev. Ragona
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
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Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

CLOSING HYMN
"The Longer I Serve Him" 623

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+ + + +

WELCOME VISITORS! Your presence here this evening is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

"Healing Codependency"	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Remember BAO. This week's need is for liquid meals, like Instant Breakfast, Ensure, etc. Jesus said, "Inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these, you have done it unto me."

Monday, 7:30 p.m. Deacon and Staff meeting.

Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. Deacon training.

Sunday, October 30, 11:00 a.m. "The Preachin' Deacon", J.R. Finney, First MCC Atlanta, will be preaching. Come hear this talented African-American preacher.
7:00 p.m. Worship Service featuring music of the African-American churches.

Friday, November 4, 7-9 p.m. Choir rehearsal for Christmas music.

District Conference, Wilmington, N.C. (on the beach), November 11, 12, 13. See Steve Parker for information. Registration forms are in the lobby.

Tickets are available for the 1925 silent movie, "Phantom of the Opera" at the Alabama Theater. Cost is $6.00 if ordered in advance, $8.00 at the door. We will be attending as a group on Saturday, October 29th, meeting at the theater at 7:00. John and Andy will be providing a Hallowe'en party for the children starting at 6:30, with games and refreshments.

Our thanks to everyone who took part in the aids Walk, and for Dottie and Wes who coordinated our effort. Fifty-five or more CMCC folks walked!

O God of love, whose spirit wakes
In every human breast,
Whom love, and love alone, can know,
In whom all hearts find rest:
Help us to spread thy gracious reign
Till greed and hate shall cease,
And kindness dwell in human hearts,
And all the earth finds peace!

Henry Hallam Tweedy

mcc
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COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy
Andy Mullins, Student Clergy
Greg Bullard, Student Clergy (Huntsville)

Evening Worship
November 6, 1994
7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Out of the fullness of the lives God has given us, we have come to worship and to praise.

MANY: **With thanks we offer to God the creativity of our minds, the warmth of our hearts, and the joy of our spirits.**

ONE: We love because God first loved us, freeing us from the power of sin and death.

MANY: **With glad hearts let us join together in singing praise to God, Creator, Word and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

++THE OPENING HYMN
"How Firm a Foundation" 32

++THE OPENING PRAYER

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

++THE HYMN OF CELEBRATION
"Blessed Assurance" 67

THE EVENING OFFERING
Offertory Randall

++THE DOXOLOGY

READINGS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURES
Joshua 13: 6-13
Matthew 20: 1-16

SPECIAL MUSIC Dennis

THE SERMON John Hankins
"The One Not Chosen"

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION
CHRIST'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION Rev. Ragona
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
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Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

CLOSING HYMN
"It Is No Secret" 581

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+ + + +

WELCOME VISITORS! Your presence here this evening is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

No class this week. Pastor will be traveling.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer) 7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Remember BAO. This week's need is for beef stew, chunky soups, and canned chicken and dumplings. Jesus said, "Inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these, you have done it unto me."

Tuesday, 11/8, 8:00 p.m. Deacon Training.

District Conference, Wilmington, N.C. (on the beach), November 11, 12, 13. See Steve Parker for information. Registration forms are in the lobby.

Saturday, November 19, 10 a.m. Inquirer's class. The morning session will cover our beliefs and our government. The afternoon session 1-3 p.m. will cover "Homosexuality and the Bible." You must have these classes to become a member, but you are welcome to attend them even if you are not ready to take that step. Everyone is welcome.

Remember Pledge Sunday and Thanksgiving Dinner at the church, Sunday November 20th. Watch for your Pledge Card in the mail, and a sign up sheet for dinner in next week's bulletin.

Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service on November 23rd at 7:00 p.m. This is one of our two Wednesday evening services each year (the other is Ash Wednesday). Please come and share your thanksgivings.

Please begin bringing items for the BAO Christmas baskets. Needed are: Tee shirts, underwear, socks, sweat suits, shampoo, colognes, deodorant, paper products, toothpaste, tooth brushes, non-alcoholic mouthwash, holiday foods (canned or packaged), candies and anything you can think of that might make a person living with AIDS happier at the holidays.

THE THINGS, GOOD LORD, THAT WE PRAY FOR, GIVE US GRACE TO LABOUR FOR.

THOMAS MORE

mcc

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

(205)599-3363 5117 First Avenue, North P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 35210

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy
Andy Mullins, Student Clergy
Greg Bullard, Student Clergy (Huntsville)

+ + + + + +

Christ the King
November 20, 1994
11:00 a.m.

CALL TO WORSHIP Shirley C.

ONE: "I am the Alpha and the Omega" says the sovereign God, "who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty."

MANY: Blessing and honor and glory and might be unto the Lamb!

ONE: Worthy is Christ who has ransomed us by his blood. From every tribe and tongue and nation, God has made God's people a realm and priests to our God.

MANY: Holy, holy, holy is God Almighty, who was and is and is to come.

++OPENING HYMN
Jesus Shall Reign 238

++OPENING PRAYER

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Dennis

OUR GIFTS TO GOD
Our Prayer Offerings Randall
Together, let us pray for:
the people of this congregation
those who suffer and those in trouble
the concerns of our community
the world, its peoples, and its leaders
the church universal -- its leaders, its members and its mission...

Our Tithes and Gifts Dennis
Offertory

++THE DOXOLOGY

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT Lee

CHILDREN'S CHURCH (First Floor-Familyship Hall)

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES
II Samuel 23: 1-7
Revelation 1: 4b-8
John 18:33-37

ANTHEM Choral Ensemble
For the Beauty of the Earth (Rutter)

SERMON Rev. Marge Ragona
"Thanks Giving"

RETURNING OF OUR PLEDGES

THE COLLECT CALL TO CONFESSION
O God, our God, we celebrate the new life which you have given us. We have experienced broken lives made whole, old wounds of alienation healed over, and tired spirits rejuvenated with new vision. Gracious God, we are so grateful for the purpose and possibilities you have placed before us. Yet there are times when doubt has overcome hope, cynicism has replaced dedication, the world's values have captured us more than yours. Forgive us those times, we pray. Help us let go of the past that we might move joyfully into a new future that points to your love and justice. Hear now our silent confessions...

CHRIST'S PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON
The God whom we know is a God of mercy and love. God accepts us as we are and moves toward us with forgiveness. We are freed to live in the freshness of each new day; we are freed to reach out to each other in joy and love.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Cliff Tinney

Celebrant: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to God.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution

THE MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH
Christ has died.
Christ is risen
Christ will come again.

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT
Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

++THE CLOSING HYMN
Jesus Is Lord of All 235

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE -

++THE BENEDICTION

++CHORAL RESPONSE
The Lord Bless You and Keep You

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE
+ + + + +

WELCOME VISITORS
Your presence here this morning is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Thanksgiving Eve Worship

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer) 7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Beginning December 4, Sunday School will begin at 9:30 and run to 10:30 so choir members can rehearse before service.

Remember BAO. This week's need is for liquid meals like Ensure, Carnation Instant Breakfast, etc. Jesus said, "Inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these, you have done it unto me."

Tuesday, November 22, 8:00 p.m. Deacon Training.

Wednesday, Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service here at the church. Let us give thanks for all of God's blessings.

Remember today is Pledge Sunday and we are having Thanksgiving Dinner immediately following the service. Everyone is welcome to stay for dinner. You should have received your Pledge Card in the mail; if not, please use the one in your bulletin.

At 4 p.m. today, there will be a memorial service for Paul White, who passed away on November 9th. Everyone is welcome.

Please begin bringing items for the BAO Christmas baskets. Needed are: Tee shirts, underwear, socks, sweat suits, shampoo, colognes, deodorant, paper products, toothpaste, tooth brushes, non-alcoholic mouthwash, holiday foods (canned or packaged), candies and anything you can think of that might make a person living with AIDS happier at the holidays.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY PREVIEW

11/26 - Saturday: Chrismon making workshop. Make an ornament for the memorial tree.

11/27 - Sunday: 11 a.m. Hanging of the Greens
4 p.m. Christmas Tree Memorial

11/30 - Wednesday: Special Advent Group Study begins (4 wks)

12/16 - Caroling around town; BAO, etc.

12/17 - Saturday: Christmas banquet here at the church.

12/18 - Sunday Evening: Special Christmas Music Program by the choir.

12/24 - Saturday: Christmas Eve service, 10:30 p.m.

12/25 - Sunday: Special Christmas Worship

Each Sunday evening in Advent will be celebrated with a dramatic monologue centering on one of the people important to the Biblical story leading up to Christmas. 12/4 Elizabeth will be portrayed by Dottie, 12/11 Herod by John F., 12/18 the Wise Man by Mark M., 12/25 the Innkeeper by Michael B.

Excel Preview: The next Excel of the Rainbow Zebra weekend will be at Toccoa, Georgia, in the mountains, the weekend of March 31-April 2. Registration forms are in vestibule. Ask anyone with a rainbow stole.

mcc
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C0VENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
Susan Walker, Director of Music
John Hankins, Student Clergy
Andy Mullins, Student Clergy
Greg Bullard, Student Clergy (Huntsville)

+ + + + + +

Evening Worship
December 18, 1994
7:00 p.m.

++CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Joy to the world!
MANY: This, then, is the culmination of our years of waiting.
ONE: We have lit the candles of hope, of peace, of love. In the glow of their light we feel the warmth of deep and quiet joy.
MANY: Joy to the world, the Savior reigns.
ONE: Let us employ song and laughter, music and lights.
MANY: Let us sing to the glory of God.
ONE: Let us sing in the name of the Christ who offers us hope in the prison of despair,
MANY: Who offers us peace in the chaos of life;
ONE: Who offers us God's love -- graciously, silently, vulnerably offered.
MANY: And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

++OPENING HYMN
There's a Song in the Air *Printed*

++OPENING PRAYER :

WELCOME

THE EVENING OFFERING

THE DOXOLOGY

CHOIR PRESENTATION
Share the Good News! He is Born! by Allen Pote

Hodie, Emmanuel	*Chorus*
Song of the Birth	*Solo: Susan Walker; Chorus*
Angel	*Rick A.*
Song of the Angels	*Chorus*
Song of the Shepherds	*Chorus*
Shepherd	*Mark Moore*
No Golden Carriage	*Dennis Luft*
(Gilbert Martin)	
Song of the Wise Man	*Chorus*
Herod	*John Foust*
Balthazar	*Rob R.*
Caspar	*Mark Cobb*
Melchoir	*Greg Adams*
Our Gifts We Bring	*Chorus; Solo: Debbie T.*

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

CHRIST'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION Rev. Ragona
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

++CLOSING HYMN
O, Come All Ye Faithful *193*

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

+ + + + + + + + +

WELCOME VISITORS

We are happy that you have chosen to worship with us this evening. We hope you receive a blessing from the service and will consider making Covenant your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed (don't forget your Zip Code). Let us know how we may serve you. Again, Welcome!

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE CHOIR IS SPONSORING A RECEPTION IN FAMILYSHIP HALL FOLLOWING THE SERVICE.

Welcome to our special Christmas Music Program, the choir's presentation of *Share the Good News! He is Born* by Allen Pote. We are glad that you are here to share this special service. Our thanks to Susan Walker and the choir for the time it took to prepare for this presentation.

BAO would like to thank everyone who took a star and made someone's Christmas brighter. Thank you all for your help with the Christmas box project. They literally could not have done it without you and your help.

The Advent Group is cancelled for this week.

Thanks to everone who helped with the Christmas banquet last evening, and to all those who went caroling. Special thanks to Greg Adams for chairing the banquet, and to Wes Fortner for leading the caroling.

Saturday, December 24, 10:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelighting Service. Communion will be served. Wish yourself, significant others and friends a Merry Christmas in a meaningful way; invite them to church!

Sunday, December 25, Christmas Day, Special Christmas Worship. Sunday evening Michael Betts will portray "The Innkeeper" in a dramatic monologue.

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COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy
Andy Mullins, Student Clergy
Greg Bullard, Student Clergy (Huntsville)

Evening Worship
January 15, 1995
7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP Mark Brown

ONE: In the beginning God created the light.
MANY: Morning broke on the first day.
ONE: This God of ours sent the light.
MANY: Jesus the Christ came to the world's people.
ONE: The light shines for us.
MANY: God's light illumines our lives and asks us to worship this day.

++THE OPENING HYMN
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling 21

++THE OPENING PRAYER

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN OF CELEBRATION
Because Christ Lives 292

EVENING OFFERING

++THE DOXOLOGY

READINGS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURES
Psalm 34: 1-8
Romans 5: 1-11a
Matthew 26: 26-29

SPECIAL MUSIC

SERMON: Andy Mullins

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION
CHRIST'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION Rev. Ragona
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
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Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

CLOSING HYMN
The Wonder of It All 13

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+ + + +

WELCOME VISITORS! Your presence here this evening is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Healing Spiritual Abuse (Self-Righteousness) 7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer) 7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

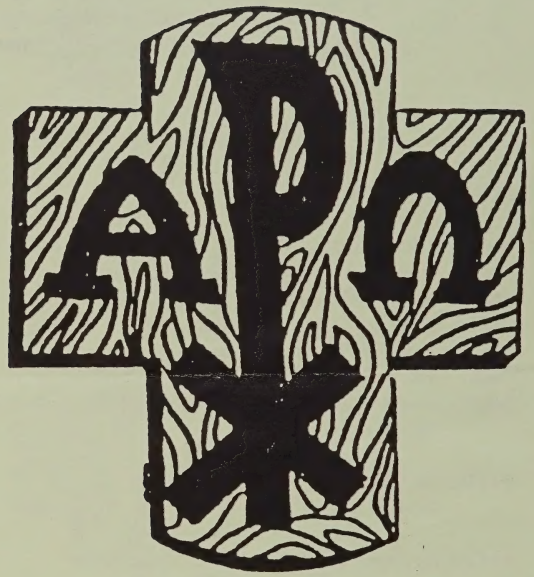
Sunday School begins at 9:30 and runs to 10:30 so choir members can rehearse before worship.

Tuesday, January 17, 8:00 p.m. Deacon Training: Who the deacon is and how the deacon serves.

Monday, January 23, 7:00 p.m. Communion Servers' training; 8:00 p.m. usher training. If you are interested, please see the pastor. We are looking for a group of committed ushers.

Every member should have received an accounting of their giving for 1994. Nonmembers who gave by check or envelope can find their records by alphabetic order in a box in the vestibule (or see Allan).

Excel Preview: The next Excel of the Rainbow Zebra weekend will be in Toccoa, Georgia, in the mountains, the weekend of March 31-April 2. Registration forms are in the vestibule. Ask anyone with a rainbow stole.



cmcc

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

(205)599-3363 5117 First Avenue, North P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 35210

Patrick T., Larry B. and Larry Jr. (11 years old) have been burned out of their manufactured home. They are in need of the following:

Shirts -- large (16 1/2-17), medium (15 1/1) and medium (15 1/2).

Pants -- 33-30, 31-30, 28=30 or 16 husky.

Underwear -- 32-34, 30-32, and 16.

Socks, large size for all three.

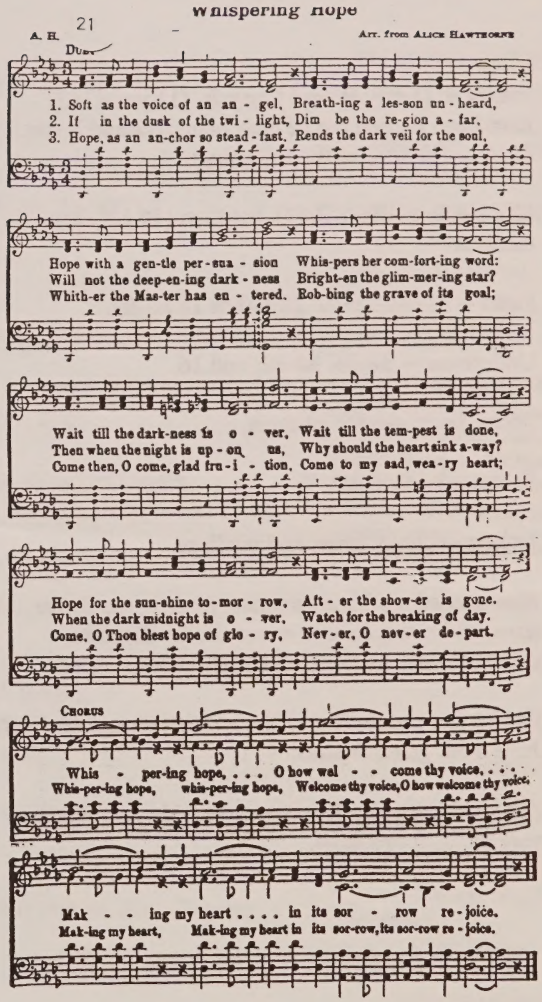
Shoes -- 8 1/2, 8 1/2, 9.

Jackets -- Large, large, and medium.

Also needed are large sweaters, jeans in the above sizes, and sweat suits or sweat shirts. Blankets, sheets, towels, and washcloths would be helpful.

Patrick is a cashier, Larry Sr. is disabled, and Larry Jr. is a 5th grade student.

Any clothing or linens you can provide would be very much appreciated.



Edward Charles -
320-1443
Evenings

Patrick T., Larry B. and Larry Jr. (11 years old) have been burned out of their manufactured home. They are in need of the following:

Shirts -- large (16 1/2-17), medium (15 1/1) and medium (15 1/2).

Pants -- 33-30, 31-30, 28=30 or 16 husky.

Underwear -- 32-34, 30-32, and 16.

Socks, large size for all three.

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Also needed are large sweaters, jeans in the above sizes, and sweat suits or sweat shirts. Blankets, sheets, towels, and washcloths would be helpful.

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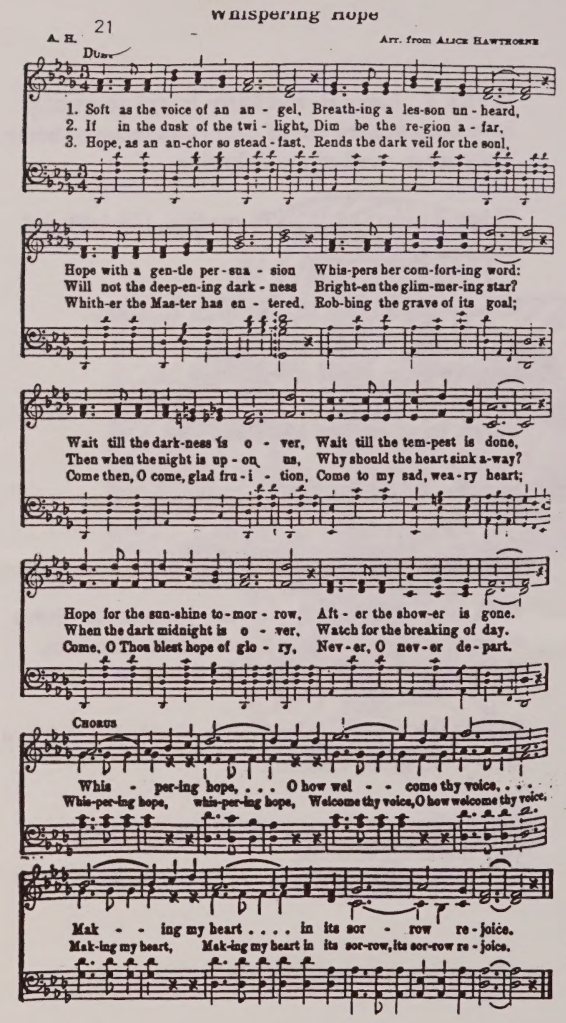

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy
Andy Mullins, Student Clergy
Greg Bullard, Student Clergy (Huntsville)

Evening Worship
November 27, 1994
7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Christians around the world begin this day to await the advent of Christ. We join with a joyous and hopeful throng in lighting the Advent candles, symbols of our faith and signs of God's love shown! God's steadfast love endures forever!

MANY: We gather as a people of hope.

ONE: Christian people around the world stand in breathless anticipation of a miracle that has been repeated for hundreds of years, yet that astounds us anew each year.

MANY: Our hope springs anew, from an ancient vision.

ONE: As we light the first Advent candle, let it stand for hope based not on wishful thinking, but on deep conviction. We believe, we have seen, we have received the Promise and the Great Gift, and therefore, in the midst of darkness and imperfection, we hope.

MANY: We gather expectantly, joyfully, and with deep commitment, for we have heard that a Special Child is to come, that God is to be among us, and that soon we will see a new creation on earth. We are a people of hope.

++THE OPENING HYMN
"Whispering Hope" Printed

++THE OPENING PRAYER

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

EVENING OFFERING

++THE DOXOLOGY

SERMON HYMN
Have Thine Own Way 400

READINGS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURES
Jeremiah 18: 1-6
Romans 9: 21
John 4: 4-14

SPECIAL MUSIC

THE SERMON Mark Brown
A Worthy Vessel - The Right Place at the Right Time

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION
CHRIST'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION Rev. Ragona
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice. Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.

Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

CLOSING HYMN
The Solid Rock 92

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+ + + +

WELCOME VISITORS! Your presence here this evening is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you.
WELCOME!

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Advent Group Study	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Beginning December 4, Sunday School will begin at 9:30 and run to 10:30 so choir members can rehearse before service.

Remember BAO. There is a special need for items for the Christmas boxes: Tee shirts, socks, sweat suits, holiday foods, underwear, shampoo, deodorant, alcohol-free mouthwash, etc. Please try to help. See Shannon if you have questions. Box is in the lobby.

At 4 p.m. today, there will be the service of the memorial tree. Everyone is welcome. Bring an ornament to hang in memory or honor of someone you love.

Monday, November 28: Deacon/Staff meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 1, 6 p.m: World AIDS Day service. Meet at fountain at Five Points South and process to Southside Baptist Church for service. Rev. Marge will be in the service. Everyone is welcome.

Friday, Dec. 9: Christmas party for choir and spouses, see Susan.

Saturday, Dec. 10: Goals Setting Workshop. This must be done before Congregational Meeting in January.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY PREVIEW
12/16 - Caroling around town; BAO, etc.
12/17 - Saturday: Christmas banquet here at the church.
12/18 - Sunday Evening: Special Christmas Music Program by the choir.
12/24 - Saturday: Christmas Eve service, 10:30 p.m.
12/25 - Sunday: Special Christmas Worship

Each Sunday evening in Advent will be celebrated with a dramatic monologue centering on one of the people important to the Biblical story leading up to Christmas. 12/4 Elizabeth will be portrayed by Dottie, 12/11 Herod by John F., 12/18 the Wise Man by Mark M., 12/25 the Innkeeper by Michael B.

Ethel Lambert, Shirley's Mom, is celebrating her **90th** birthday on December 17th, 1994 in Chatom, Al. For those who have expressed a desire to send birthday greetings, the address is:
P. O. Box 156, Chatom, Al. 36518

Light ❄ Hope
Joy ❄ Peace

mcc
Covenant Metropolitan Community Church
(205)599-3363 5117 First Avenue, North P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 3521

CELEBRATE EASTER!

through God's gift of music

"When in Our Music God is Glorified" — ENGELBERG / F. P. Green

verses 1-4: choir only

verse 5: congregation and choir

Let every instrument be tuned for praise!
Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!
And may God give us faith to sing always
Al - le - lu - ia!

"All Earth Rejoice With a Gladsome Voice" — A. Vivaldi / Hopson arr.
"A Wind Blew Over Calvary" — Greg Sewell
"Why Do They Mock You, Lord?" — Ruth Elaine Schram
"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" — Watts, Mason / Mallory arr.
"And God Cried" — Robert Sterling, Chris Machen

choir: Christ is risen!
narrator: Christ is risen!
CONGREGATION: CHRIST IS RISEN!
ALL: CHRIST IS RISEN, INDEED!

"Christ is Alive!" (please stand) — TRURO / B. Wren

congregation and choir

Christ is alive! let Christians sing. His cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring. God's love in death shall never die.

Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine,
Christ comes to claim the here and now and conquer every place and time.

Not throned above, remotely high, untouched, unmoved by human pains,
but daily, in the midst of life, our Savior with the Creator reigns.

In every insult, rift, and war, where color, scorn or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives though ever crucified.

Christ is alive! His Spirit burns through this, and every future age,
till all creation lives and learns his joy, his justice, love, and praise.

"In This Very Room" — Ron and Carol Harris
"I Claim the Cross" — Keith Ferguson, Bruce Greer
"Promised Land" — Natalie Sleeth
"I Love to Tell the Story" — Gilbert Martin
"All Earth Rejoice" Reprise — A. Vivaldi / Hopson arr.

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Please join us for a reception following the service.

PRESENTED BY
COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH
Birmingham, Alabama
April 16, 1995
7:00pm
directed by Susan Walker

piano
Lynn B.
trumpet
Carol C.
organ
Barry N.

narrator
Rick A.
banners by:
Stevie H., Honey B.
sign language by:
Mark M.

soprano
Stevie H.
Mimi N.
Debbie T.
alto
Dennis L.
Carol C.
Dottie C.
Tisch S.
Honey B.

tenor
Mark C.
Gene A.
Steve P.
bass
Mark M.
Rick A.
Greg A.

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor Susan Walker, Director of Music

Student Clergy: John Hankins, Andy Mullins, Greg Bullard

Evening Worship

April 16, 1995

7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP Cal McCloskey

ONE: Christ is risen.
MANY: Christ is risen indeed
ONE: God is alive and new birth is given.
MANY: Hope is alive and a new day is dawning.
ONE: Joy is alive and redemption is here.
MANY: Love is alive, death cannot harm us.
ONE: We are alive, new life is within us.
MANY: The church is alive, God's spirit is within us.
ALL: God of life, we worship you.
God of creation, we praise you.
God of revelation, we learn from you.
God of resurrection, we are here to celebrate you!

++THE OPENING HYMN
Christ Arose 298

++THE OPENING PRAYER Rev. Ragona

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

EVENING OFFERING
Offertory- *Crown Him With Many Crowns* Barry & Ty
(Innes & Fasig)

++THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
O praise God, Alleluia.
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Praise Maker, Christ and Holy Ghost.
O praise God, O praise God.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

CHOIR PRESENTATION
"Our Easter Story"

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

CHRIST'S PRAYER: "Our Creator, who art in heaven..."

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION Rev. Ragona
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Communion is served both at the seats and at the altar; you may choose to be served at either place.
Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

++CLOSING HYMN
Because Christ Lives (Vss 1&3) 292

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

++ Please stand.

WELCOME VISITORS! Your presence here this evening is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Quilting Bee - Names Project	2:00 p.m
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

There is no Wednesday study this week.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer) 7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Monday, April 16, 7 p.m. Communion Server training. Would you like to know more about communion and how to pray and serve at the altar? This class is for you! Women servers are particularly needed.

Tuesday, April 17, 8 p.m. Deacon Training. Loss and Death.

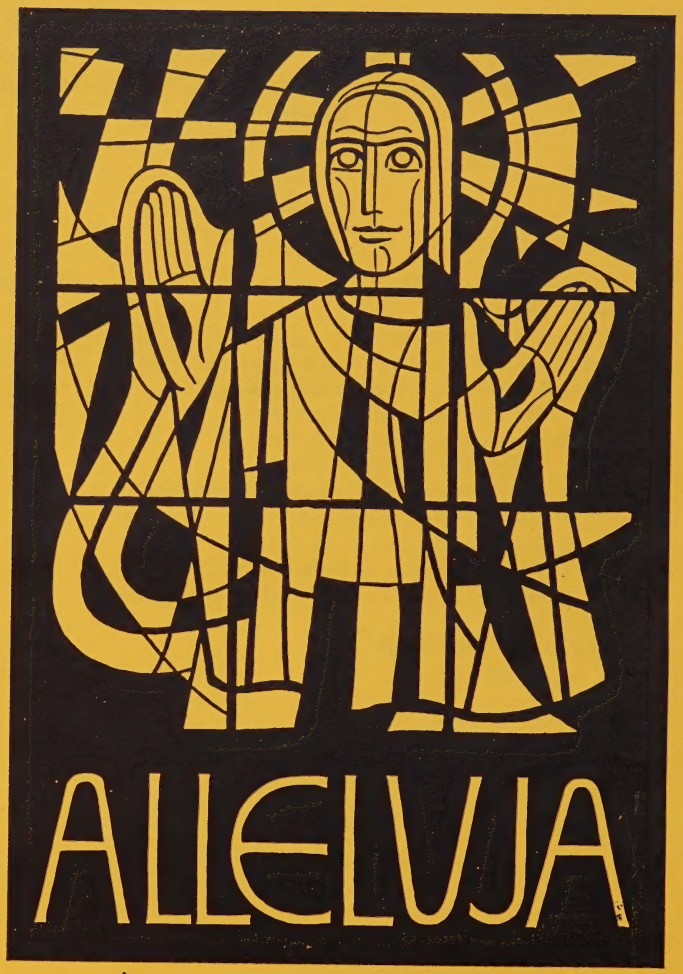
New Wednesday study begins May 3rd, "Healing Distorted Images of Self." How do you think of yourself; could you do better? Come and learn the better side of yourself.

The pastor is on vacation this week, except for the announced class. If you have a need, please call the church number and a deacon will assist you or refer you to the pastor in an emergency.

Watch it! Cathedral of Hope MCC (Dallas), our largest church with 1600 congregants is being broadcast Thursday evenings 11:00, Channel 4, Public Access Cable. This week, Rev. Michael Piazza, "Miracle of Hidden Sandwiches."

Please help set up for church and put back for the Wedding Chapel if you have a moment before or after the service.

Please! If you unlock a door when you go in, lock it when you come out!



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Covenant Metropolitan Community Church
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COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor Susan Walker, Director of Music

Student Clergy: John Hankins, Andy Mullins, Greg Bullard

Evening Worship

April 9, 1995

7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP Cliff Tinney

ONE: God will not forsake the people;

MANY: Nor will God's heritage be abandoned.

ONE: For justice will return to the righteous.

MANY: And the upright in heart will follow it.

++THE OPENING HYMN

My Tribute 365

++THE OPENING PRAYER

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN OF CELEBRATION

Precious Lord, Take My Hand 611

EVENING OFFERING

Offertory

++THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
O praise God, Alleluia.
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Praise Maker, Christ and Holy Ghost.
O praise God, O praise God.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

READINGS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURE

Ezekiel 33: 1-11
Philemon 1-20
Luke 14: 25-33

SPECIAL MUSIC

SERMON Andy Mullins

The Cost of Liberation

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

CHRIST'S PRAYER: "Our Creator, who art in heaven..."

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION Rev. Ragona

Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Communion is served both at the seats and at the altar; you may choose to be served at either place.
Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

COMMUNION SOLO

++CLOSING HYMN

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross 258

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

++ Please stand.

WELCOME VISITORS! Your presence here this evening is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Quilting Bee - Names Project	2:00 p.m
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Encounters With Jesus	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

LILIES: Lilies will be available to dress the Easter altar. If you would like to purchase a lily in honor of someone living or in memory of someone who has died, please see John Foust.

Monday, April 10, 7 p.m.: Board Meeting.

Wednesday, April 12: Last "Encounter with Jesus"; new study begins May 3rd, "Healing Distorted Images of Self." How do you think of yourself; could you do better? Come and learn the better side of yourself.

Thursday, April 14, 6:30. Seder (includes dinner at the church for $5.00). Bring the children.

Good Friday, April 15, Tenebrae Service 7 p.m..

Easter Dawn Service at Eastlake Park 6 a.m., followed by breakfast at the church, 8 a.m. Special 11:00 a.m. service, and choir presentation "Our Easter Story," Easter Sunday at 7:00 p.m.

Watch it! Cathedral of Hope MCC (Dallas), our largest church with 1600 congregants is being broadcast Thursday evenings 11:00, Channel 4, Public Access Cable. This week, Rev. Michael Piazza, "When God Says No."

Please help set up and put back for the Wedding Chapel if you have a moment before or after the service.

MCC
Covenant Metropolitan Community Church
(205)599-3363 5117 First Avenue, North P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 35210

Walking in sunlight, all of my journey

10.9.10.9. with refrain

HEAVENLY SUNLIGHT

1. Walk - ing in sun - light all of my jour - ney, O - ver the moun-tains,
2. Tri - als a - round me, trou - bles a - bove me Nev - er con - ceal my
3. In the bright sun - light, ev - er re - joic - ing, Press - ing my way to

through the deep vale; Je - sus has said, "I'll nev - er for - sake thee,"
Sav - ior and Guide; Christ is my joy in whom is no sad - ness;
man - sions a - bove; Sing - ing Christ's prais - es glad - ly I'm walk - ing,

Refrain

Prom - ise di - vine that nev - er can fail.
Ev - er I'm walk - ing at Je - sus' side. Heav - en - ly sun - light,
Walk - ing in sun - light, sun - light of love.

heav - en - ly sun - light, Flood-ing my soul with glo - ry di - vine; Hal - le -

lu - jah! I am re - joic - ing, Sing - ing prais - es, Je - sus is mine.

TEXT: Henry J. Zelley, 1899; alt.
MUSIC: George H. Cook, 1899
Used by permission of Hope Publishing Company

The Hymnal Project, © 1990 MCC San Francisco

Wednesday, March 22: Encounters with Jesus. Prayer/Meditation study for Lent. Everyone is welcome.

EXCEL: Time is running out. The next Excel of the Rainbow Zebra weekend will be in Toccoa, Georgia, in the mountains, the weekend of March 31-April 2. Registration forms are in the vestibule. Ask anyone with a rainbow stole.

Mark your calendar: Easter planning - Maundy Thursday Seder (includes dinner at the church for $5.00), Good Friday Tenebrae Service 7 p.m., Easter Dawn Service at Eastlake Park 6 a.m., followed by breakfast at the church. Special 11:00 a.m. service, and choir presentation Easter night, 7 p.m.

HELP NEEDED: We need people who can come a few minutes early and help set up for worship and others who can stay a few minutes late and replace Wedding Chapel fixtures in the evening. See Allan and/or John Foust if you can help. Also needed is a sound operator (male or female) for each service.

A Sunday School teacher for the Youth Department is needed. Someone with a love for young teens and some teaching experience is needed to love and lead our children.

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COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor Susan Walker, Director of Music

Student Clergy: John Hankins, Andy Mullins, Greg Bullard

Evening Worship

March 19, 1995

7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP Cliff Tinney

ONE: We come to this time of worship in reverent awe.

MANY: The place where we are standing is holy ground.

ONE: Know the presence and the power of the Living God.

MANY: God comes to us as a burning fire that does not consume, a revelation bringing warmth and vitality.

ONE: We have known God throughout our history;

MANY: Yet there is so much of God we do not know. God's purposes are far beyond our understanding.

ONE: Now in these moments we would be open to the unexpected.

MANY: Come, Holy Spirit, that we may respond. Discipline and cultivate us that our lives might bear fruit.

++THE OPENING HYMN

Come, Holy Spirit 150

++THE OPENING PRAYER

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Steve Parker.

HYMN OF CELEBRATION

In The Cross of Christ I Glory 251

EVENING OFFERING Mark Moore

Offertory Wade Barton

++THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
O praise God, Alleluia.
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Praise Maker, Christ and Holy Ghost.
O praise God, O praise God.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

READINGS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURE

Exodus 3: 1-15

++ **John 8: 21-30**

SPECIAL MUSIC Randall Foster

SERMON Greg Bullard

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

CHRIST'S PRAYER: "Our Creator, who art in heaven..."

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION Rev. Ragona

Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Communion is served both at the seats and at the altar; you may choose to be served at either place.
Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

COMMUNION SOLO Debbie Tate

++CLOSING HYMN

Walking in Sunlight, All of My Journey Printed

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

++ **Please stand.**

WELCOME VISITORS! Your presence here this evening is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Quilting Bee - Names Project	2:00 p.m
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Encounters With Jesus	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are trying something new. The ushers will move back through the congregation, inviting people to come forward to communion. You may go then, or you may wait, but we encourage people to come forward as the ushers indicate.

Today we are recognizing those who are Friends of the Church with coffee and cake in their honor after the service. A Friend is similar to an associate member, with all rights except the right to vote at congregational meetings. Friends may be prohibited by conscience from becoming members but are welcome anyway.

This Sunday we will be receiving our monthly Third Sunday offering for the Building Fund. Please place your Building Fund offering in an envelope and mark it. Where will we be in 2000? Each of us can help Covenant be in our own building by then.

Monday, March 20, 7:00 p.m. Inquirers' Classes (Homosexuality and the Bible, led by John Hankins) and on Saturday, March 25th . 10:00 a.m. (Faith, Organization of MCCs, with lunch provided) with Homosexuality and the Bible at 1:30 led by Rev. Ragona. The full series of three classes is required for membership, but you do not need to commit to becoming a member to attend. Everyone is welcome. If you are interested in membership, speak with the Pastor.

Tuesday, March 21: Deacon Training, Inclusivity.

mcc
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(205)599-3363 5117 First Avenue, North P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 35210

C0VENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
Susan Walker. Director of Music
John Hankins, Student Clergy
Andy Mullins, Student Clergy
Greg Bullard, Student Clergy (Huntsville)

+ + + + + +

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany
February 12, 1995
11:00 a.m.

++CALL TO WORSHIP John Foust
ONE: Let us take delight in our God,
MANY: For God gives us the desires of our hearts.
ONE: Our salvation is from God,
MANY: Our refuge in the time of trouble.

++OPENING HYMN
Now Thank We All Our God *525*

++OPENING PRAYER

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Steve P.

OUR GIFTS TO GOD
Our Prayer Offerings Randall
Together, let us pray for:
the people of this congregation
those who suffer and those in trouble
the concerns of our community
the world, its peoples, and its leaders
the church universal -- its leaders, its members and its mission...

Our Tithes and Gifts Mark Moore
Offertory

++THE DOXOLOGY

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT Eddie Merrell

CHILDREN'S CHURCH (First Floor-Familyship Hall)

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES
Genesis 45:3-11, 15
I Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50
++ Luke 6: 27-38 **(Please rise as you are able.)**

SPECIAL MUSIC

SERMON Rev. Ragona
More Than The Law

THE COLLECT CALL TO CONFESSION
God, out of your infinite love you have made us for yourself. We do not honor your love in the ways we live with one another. We have heard your call to love our enemies, but we allow the drive for revenge to overtake us. In your example of self-giving we know ourselves called to love all your creatures; we too often extend kindness only to those who have done good to us. We do not withhold our judgment of one another. Forgive us, good Lord, not as we forgive one another, but as you love and have compassion for us. Hear now our silent confessions...

CHRIST'S PRAYER
"Our Creator, which art in heaven..."

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON
The good news is that Christ calls us to new life and enables us to begin again and again, and even again. Let us praise God with songs of joy.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Greg Bullard
Celebrant: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to God.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution

THE MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH
Christ has died.
Christ is risen
Christ will come again.

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT
Note: Communion is served both at the seats and at the altar; you may choose to take communion at either place.
Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

++THE CLOSING HYMN
My Hope Is Built *92*

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++BENEDICTION
ONE: God go with you.
MANY: And also with you.

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+++++
++ The congregation will please stand.
+++++

WELCOME VISITORS
Your presence here this morning is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Quilting Bee - Names Project	2:00 p.m
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

No group this week.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer) 7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Sunday, we will try something new. The ushers will move back through the congregation, inviting people to come forward to communion. You may go then, or you may wait, but we encourage people to come forward as the ushers indicate.

Tuesday, February 21, 8 p.m. Deacon Training: Consecrating Communion and the communion service.

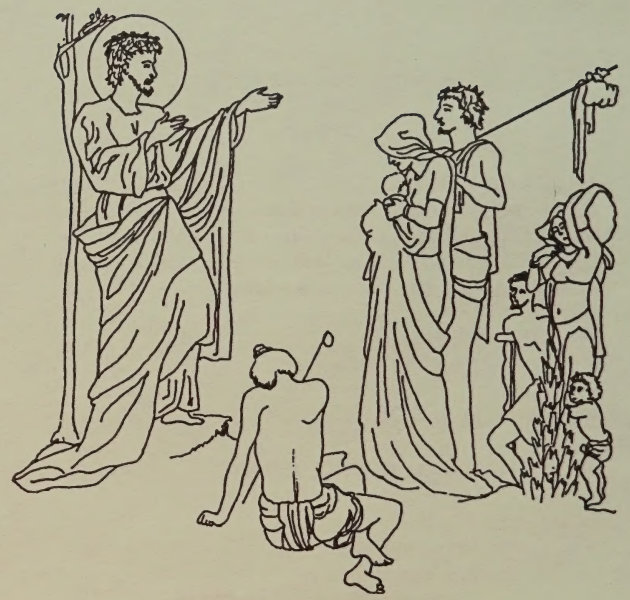
Anniversary of the church will be observed the week of February 25 to March 5. There will be a concert by David and Jane, Sunday evening, February 26th at the evening service, followed by reception in the Familyship Hall. There will be a special Ash Wednesday service, March 1 at 7:00 p.m. Rev. Dr. Buddy Truluck will be leading a series of workshops all day Saturday, March 4th, starting at 10 a.m. (with a pizza lunch provided) and preaching Sunday, March 5th at the morning service. Make plans to attend.

Inquirers' Classes will be held Mondays, March 6th (Faith), 13th (History/Organization of MCCs), and 20th (Homosexuality and the Bible) and on Saturday, March 25th (all three, with lunch provided) and Homosexuality and the Bible taught at 1:30. The full series of three classes is required for membership, but you do not need to commit to becoming a member to attend. Everyone is welcome. If you are interested in membership, speak with the Pastor.

Excel Preview: The next Excel of the Rainbow Zebra weekend will be in Toccoa, Georgia, in the mountains, the weekend of March 31-April 2. Registration forms are in the vestibule. Ask anyone with a rainbow stole.

Mark your calendar: Easter planning - Maundy Thursday Seder (includes dinner at the church for $5.00), Good Friday Tenebrae Service 7 p.m., Easter Dawn Service at Eastlake Park 6 a.m., followed by breakfast at the church. Special 11:00 a.m. service, and choir presentation Easter night, 7 p.m.

UFMCC General Conference is in Atlanta, July 23-30 at the Westin Peachtree Plaza. Reservations should be received by the Westin by June 23, 1995 ($78.00 singles and doubles, $83.00 triples and quads). Conference registrations are $208.00 for delegates before April 1, 1995 and go up to $248.00, April 2-June 15. On site registration is $268.00. Non-delegate early registration is $180.00, late registration is $220, and on-site is $240. Weekend only early registration is $110, on site is $135. Keep these facts in mind as you make your plans. Our choir will be competing to be one of the choirs at a conference worship service, and you will want to be there to support them. Registration is not required to attend worship services.



Jesus Preaching (by the Indian artist Alfred Thomas)
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MCC
Covenant Metropolitan Community Church
(205)599-3363 5117 First Avenue, North P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 35210

Songfest

DECEMBER 17, 1995
6:45 P.M.

How Great Our Joy! #182
vs. 1,2,4

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus #168
vs. 1,2

O Little Town of Bethlehem #178
vs. 1,3,4

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing #184
vs. 1,2,3

Angels We Have Heard On High #192
vs. 1,2,3

O Come All Ye Faithful #193
vs. 2 only

The First Noel #179
vs. 1 only

Joy to the World #171
vs. 1, 2, 3, 4

Poinsettias

Poinsettias on the altar have been given by the following people:

IN MEMORY OF
Rob Roberts by Mark Brown
Joe Ethal Lambert Harris by Shirley and Ethel Lambert
My mother, Sallie Mann by Dororthy Swims
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur B. Francis by Allan Francis
Mr. and Mrs. D.T. Foust, Jr. by John Foust
My mother and father by Shannon O'Hara
Rev. Byron Hilbun and Rev. Cliff Morrison by Dennis Luft

IN HONOR OF
Ethel Lambert by Shirley lambert and Marge Ragona
My mother, Dorothy Swims by William Berry

BY
Gene Aaron
Greg Adams
Cal McCloskey

Announcements

DECEMBER 17, 1995

A building to call our own!

Southtrust Bank has approved our loan. Papers have been signed. We will keep you aware of the closing date!

The Stages of Grief

Deacon Training,
■ Tuesday, December 19, 1995, 8 p.m.

Time to decide our Anniversary theme

Join us for a special Council of Ministries meeting where we will look at the proposed themes and graphics for our upcoming 15th Anniversary celebration.
■ Wednesday, December 20, 1995, 7 p.m.

Christmas Worship

We will have Christmas eve morning worship at the regular time of 11 a.m., but that night an evening candlelight service will begin at 10:30 p.m. following a light supper at 8 p.m.
■ Sunday, December 24, 1995

Our own New Year's Bash

After evening worship, join us for refreshments and games in the familyship hall, midnight prayer and communion.
■ Sunday, December 31, 1995

Special Thanks

Mark Moore, director of public relations, extends a special thanks to all those who worked on themes and graphics for our anniversary celebration.

Don't forget this Christmas greeting.

Our sister church in Birmingham, England is looking for penpals. Please send a Christmas card to this congregation. Address to: Rev. Margaret Simpson, 127 Ardath Road, Kings Norton, Birmingham, B 38 9PG England.

SUNDAY	
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11 a.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7 p.m.
TUESDAY	
Choir Praise	6:30 p.m.
THURSDAY	
Bible Study (maps are available in the foyer	7 p.m.

Flor de la Nochebuena

The Legend of the Poinsettia

A Mexican Christmas Legend

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church
5117 First Avenue North

Worship Program

DECEMBER 17, 1995
7:00 P.M.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
Steve P.

MUSIC MEDITATION
Dennis L.
Gesu Bambino

CALL TO WORSHIP ++
Donna H.

One
O God of wonder and mystery,

Many
HELP US NOW TO ENTER INTO YOUR WONDER AND MYSTERY.

One
O God of love and grace,

Many
HELP US NOW TO EMBRACE YOUR LOVE AND GRACE.

One
O God of laughter and joy,

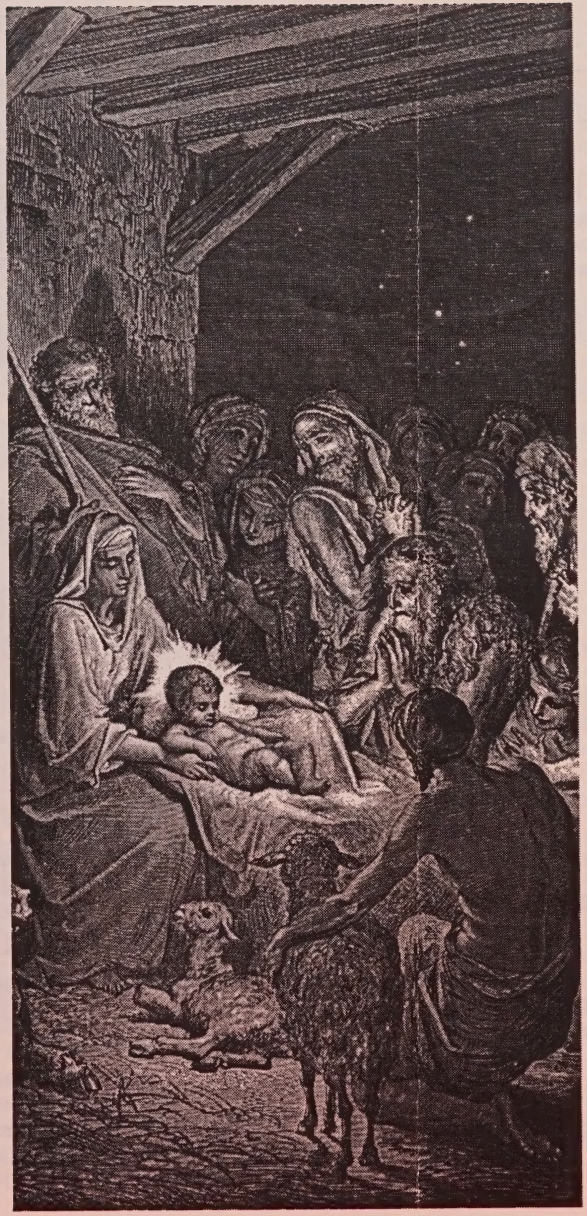
Many
HELP US NOW TO FEEL JOY AND FIND LAUGHTER IN YOUR HEALING PRESENCE AMONG US.

One
O come, let us celebrate!

All
LET US CELEBRATE TOGETHER FOR GOD IS WITH US!

OFFERTORY PRAYER ++
Nancy
Offering
Doxology ++

SCRIPTURE LESSONS
Micah 6:6-8
Psalm 117
Matthew 19:13-14 ++



The Legend of the Poinsettia

A MEXICAN CHRISTMAS LEGEND

A Christmas Rhapsody	arr. E. Lojeski
De Colores	Mexican folk song
En Santa Hermandad	Wm. Loperena
Come to the Manger, Emmanuel	P. Liebergen
Kneeling at the Manger	H. Beebe
Candlelight Carol	J. Rutter

De Colores Reprise:
Sing Rejoicing!
Every creature that breathes, raise a song
to the God of creation.
Sing, Rejoicing!
Sing to God who so earnestly cares,
who has offered salvation.
Sing the good news!
Sing the love of the Savior reflecting the colors of all.
Many colors that shine from God's face,
Many colors that tell us God's love to recall.
Many colors that shine from God's face,
Many colors that tell us God's love to recall.

FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE ++

BENEDICTION
Marge R.

CHORAL RESPONSE

RECEPTION FOLLOWS IN FELLOWSHIP HALL

*This play is based on a Mexican oral tradition of a legend, retold and illustrated in a children's story by Tomie dePaola.

Cast

Narrator	Phillip B.
Lucida Martinez	Blair B.
Senora Martinez (Mama)/Old Woman	Carla P.
First Villager	Mark M.
Second Villager	Greg A.
Senor Martinez (Papa)	Dennis L.
Padre Alvarez	Richard B.
Senora Gomez	Shannon O.
Burro	Michelle M. and Lisa R.
Mary	Bernadette P.
Joseph	John S.
Villagers	Covenant MCC Choir

Choir

Sopranos
Debbie T.
Debra S.
Margie M.
Denise K.
Nancy U.

Altos
Dennis L.
Rick A.
Stevie H.

Tenors
Mark C.
Wes F.
Gene A.

Basses
Greg A.
Mark M.
Tim L.

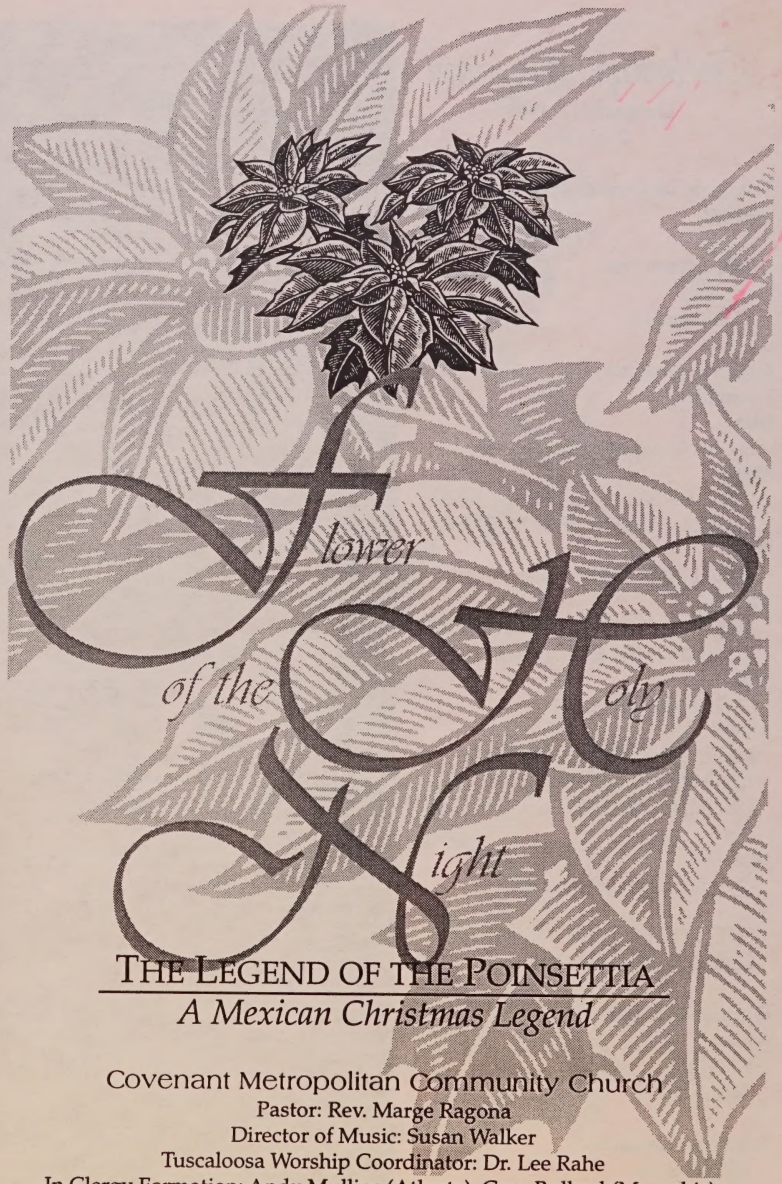
Piano
Lynn B.

Flute
Debra S.

Production

Director of Music	Susan W.
Director of Drama	Phillip B.
Play Adaptation	Susan W. Phillip B. Carla P.
Set Design/Construction	Mark C.
Costumes	Cast & Russell S. Drummond of Town and Gown Theatre
Sound	Alan F.
Lights	Donna H.
Reception	Dorothy S. and the SHOE Committee
Program Design	Mark M.

Note: The director would like to thank all the women in his life—both male and female—who have made this production a success, but a special thanks to Blair B. Carla P. and Susan W. for their untiring kindness and support.



The Legend of the Poinsettia

A Mexican Christmas Legend

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church
Pastor: Rev. Marge Ragona
Director of Music: Susan Walker
Tuscaloosa Worship Coordinator: Dr. Lee Rahe
In Clergy Formation: Andy Mullins (Atlanta), Greg Bullard (Memphis), Richard Barham, John Foust, Dr. Lee Rahe

"Sing A New Church"

Sunday, May 7 , 1995

Keyboards: Rev. Glenna Shepherd, Christ Covenant MCC, Stone Mountain:, Dr. Darrell Mitchell, Christ Covenant MCC, Stone Mountain

The Prelude — Musicians

*The Singspiration — Rev. Randy Votsch, MCC Charlotte

*The Call to Worship — Jack McConnell, Winston-Salem MCC

One: The God of New Beginnings has called us to this place.
Many: *We come celebrating the new life that is ours as God's faithful people.*
One: Let your joy ring through the universe, and let your vision see to the depths of every soul.
All: We will be shouters of joy and seekers of God's light wherever we go. Praise God for this day!

*Invocation — Cindy Long, MCC of the High Country, Boone

*The Opening Hymn: *"Holy, Holy, Holy"* (p. 44)

The Welcome and Announcements — The Rev. Jay Neely, District Coordinator

The Prayer Hymn: *"Sing a New Church"* (verses 1,2,3, p. 56)
The Prayer — Rev. Helene Loper, MCC Mobile
The Prayer Hymn: *"Sing a New Church"* (verses 4, 5, p. 56)

The Scripture Readings:
Isaiah 43:16-21 — Rev. Emily Bel, First MCC, Atlanta
*Matthew 14:22-23 — Rob Morgan, Safe Harbor MCC, Memphis

*Please rise as you are able

*The Gloria
Glory be to God, Creator of this world.
And to our Savior, Christ, Whose death has saved us all.
Glory be to the Spirit, Whose presence makes us one.
Glory be to God, the Blessed Three In One! Amen

The Special Music — Pamela Thompson, MCC Montgomery

The Sermon: **WALKING ON THE WATER WITH JESUS**
Rev. Elder Darlene Garner

*The Sermon Hymn: *"Sweet, Sweet Spirit"* (p.13)

The Offering — Debi Hyatt, MCC Knoxville

Special Music — Maxx Renefroe, MCC of the Rainbow, Jackson

*The Response:
We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gifts may be.
All that we have is Thine alone. A trust, O God, from Thee! Amen.

The Celebration of Holy Communion — Rev. Patricia Voelker, MCC Columbia
Carl Matthews Naylor, MCC of the Rainbow, Jackson

The Invitation to Confession
The General Confession:
Gracious God, we thank You for Jesus Christ, who in compassion for the helpless and harassed crowds, sent out his disciples with words of hope and deeds of love. We look around us today and see the same depths of human need; we know that You send us out with good news now. We humbly and joyfully accept Your mission, trusting in Jesus Christ to give us courage and strength. Amen.
The Absolution

The Sursum Corda

Celebrant: Our God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to our God.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God our Creator.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Celebrant: It is a right, a good, and a joyful thing, always and everywhere, to give thanks to You, almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. Therefore we praise You, joining our voices with all the company of heaven who forever sing to proclaim the glory of Your Name.

"The Sanctus and Benedictus"

Holy, Holy, Holy, Oh God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of Your glory, Hosannah in the highest!

Blessed is Christ, Who comes in the Name of our God. Hosannah in the highest!

The Consecration

"The Affirmation of the Mystery of Our Faith"

Christ has died. Christ is risen.

Christ is here. Christ will come again!

The Distribution of the Elements

(Congregation singing, "The Lord's Prayer" as celebrants consume)

The Great Thanksgiving

*The Closing Hymn: *"When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder"* (p. 23)

*The Benediction

Rev. Mick Hinson
MCC Greenville

"SING A NEW CHURCH"

120 He Hideth My Soul
663- Send Light
667 Jesus Saves

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor **Susan Walker, Director of Music**
Worship Coordinator/Tuscaloosa: Lee Rahe
Student Clergy: Andy Mullins, Greg Bullard

Evening Worship
July 16, 1995
7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP
ONE: Why do we invoke God's name in what we say and do here together?
MANY: In Christ we have been called to be God's people, and given God's spirit and God's word.
ONE: Have we the courage to worship in spirit and in truth, knowing that it may change us?
MANY: We have come to seek, to find, and to be found, with confidence not in ourselves, but in God.

++THE OPENING HYMN
Come thou, Almighty King *341*

++THE OPENING PRAYER Rev. Ragona

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Mark Moore

HYMN OF CELEBRATION
I Stand Amazed in the Presence *223*

EVENING OFFERING Emmett
Offertory

++THE DOXOLOGY
Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
O praise God, Alleluia.
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Praise Maker, Christ and Holy Ghost.
O praise God, O praise God.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURE
Exodus 33: 12-23
Philippians 2: 1-13
Matthew 21:28-32

SPECIAL MUSIC
SERMON Andy Mullins
Humble, Not Humiliated

PRAYER AND MEDITATION Rev. Ragona

CHRIST'S PRAYER: "Our Creator, who art in heaven..."

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Communion is served both at the seats and at the altar; you may choose to be served at either place.
Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

COMMUNION MUSIC 621
Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

++CLOSING HYMN
Take the Name of Jesus With You 231

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION AND THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

++ Please stand.
WELCOME VISITORS! Your presence here this evening is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Healing Fear	**7:00 p.m.**
"David's Fear and God's Promises"	

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

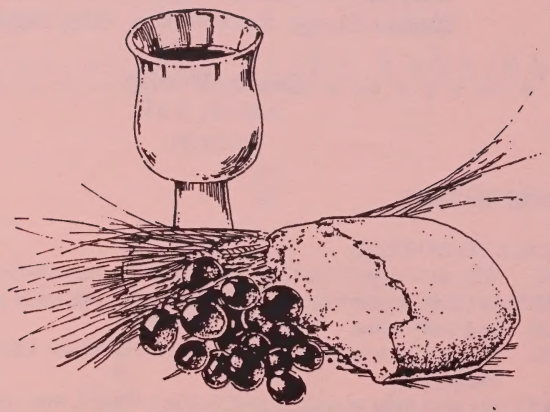
We are still accepting offerings for the Cliff Morrison Memorial Apartment at Agape House. This month marks the first anniversary of Cliff's death. We need to raise $7500 for both the initial furnishing of the apartment ($2500) and the maintenance for five years ($1000 a year). We have raised $2118, including the promised matching funds of $1000. We need $382 for the initial furnishing of the apartment. Agape House is now open, and people need to be living there.
Monday, July 17, 6-9, Legal Workshop on Sexual Abuse Issues in the church. Everyone in leadership is particularly asked to attend.

Tuesday, July 18, 8:00 p.m. Deacon Training, sexuality issues and sexual identity (differences between doing drag, cross dressing and transsexualism, sexual addiction, etc.)

Deacons will be answering the church phone while the pastor is in Atlanta for UFMCC General Conference. If you have an emergency, call and leave word and they will contact the pastor if necessary.

Next Sunday morning, at their 10 a.m. service, our choir will be singing at Christ Covenant MCC in Stone Mountain, Georgia. Sunday evening at 6:00 p.m., our choir (and Christ Covenant's) will be singing at the opening service of the UFMCC General Conference, Peachtree Westin, Peachtree Ballroom.

Thanks for helping turn church back into the Wedding Chapel after service.



BREAK THOU THE BREAD OF LIFE.

MCC
Covenant Metropolitan Community Church
(205)599-3363 5117 First Avenue, North P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 35210

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor **Susan Walker, Director of Music**
Pastoral Leader/Tuscaloosa: Rev.-Elect John Hankins
Student Clergy: Andy Mullins, Greg Bullard

Evening Worship
July 9, 1995
7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Come, let us gather in the awareness of God's love.
MANY: God's love has brought us to this place; it has made of us a people.
ONE: We can live with confidence and hope, in the assurance that we are forgiven and accepted by a power greater than ourselves.
MANY: Because we are forgiven, we too can forgive.
ALL: Let us praise this God of endless grace, and offer our hearts' true worship. Amen.

++THE OPENING HYMN
Wonderful Words of Life 29

++THE OPENING PRAYER Rev. Ragona

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Steve Parker

HYMN OF CELEBRATION
The Wonder of It All 13

EVENING OFFERING William
Offertory

++THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
O praise God, Alleluia.
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Praise Maker, Christ and Holy Ghost.
O praise God, O praise God.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURE
Exodus 5: 1 - Exodus 6:1

SPECIAL MUSIC Randall

SERMON Greg Bullard
"Do Justice"

PRAYER AND MEDITATION Rev. Ragona

CHRIST'S PRAYER: "Our Creator, who art in heaven..."

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution 256
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Communion is served both at the seats and at the altar; you may choose to be served at either place.
Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice. 156
Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

COMMUNION MUSIC
In The Cross of Christ I Glory 251

++CLOSING HYMN
More About Jesus Would I Know 477

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION AND THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

++ Please stand.

WELCOME VISITORS! Your presence here this evening is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

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Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Healing Fear	**7:00 p.m.**
"Moses' Fear and God's Provision"	

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer) 7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are still accepting offerings for the Cliff Morrison Memorial Apartment at Agape House. This month marks the first anniversary of Cliff's death. We need to raise $7500 for both the initial furnishing of the apartment ($2500) and the maintenance for five years ($1000 a year). We have raised $2118, including the promised matching funds of $1000. We need $382 for the initial furnishing of the apartment. Agape House is now open, and people need to be living there.

Today, immediately following service, dinner will be served in the familyship hall. Bob Tyler, a caterer, is cooking and arranging dinner for us. Cost is $5.00. Tickets are on sale in the lobby. (You'd spend more at Denny's!!)

Monday, 7:00 p.m. Board Meeting.

Tuesday, 8:00 p.m. Forum on General Conference issues chaired by our lay delegates to that conference.

Saturday, July 15, 10-2, Music Copyright Law workshop; everyone who sings, plays, or plans music for the church needs to attend for everyone's legal protection.

Monday, July 17, 6-9, Legal Workshop on Sexual Abuse Issues in the church. Everyone in leadership is particularly asked to attend.

Tuesday, July 18, 8:00 p.m. Deacon Training, sexuality issues and sexual identity (differences between doing drag, cross dressing and transsexualism, sexual addiction, etc.)

THE BEATITUDES

Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.
Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.
Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.
Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.
Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.
Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:3-10

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C0VENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor **Susan Walker, Director of Music**

Pastoral Leader/Tuscaloosa: Rev. Elect John Hankins

Student Clergy: Andy Mullins, Greg Bullard

+ + + + + +

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

July 9, 1995

Morning Worship, 11:00 a.m.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Peg

PRELUDE

++CALL TO WORSHIP Eddie Merrell

ONE: Sing praises to God.

MANY: And give thanks to God's holy name.

ONE: God turns our mourning into dancing;

MANY: We give thanks to God for ever.

OPENING PRAYER Rev. Marge Ragona

++HYMN OF PRAISE 658

O Zion, Haste

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Our Prayer Offerings Randall

Together, let us pray for:

the people of this congregation
those who suffer and those in trouble
the concerns of our community
the world, its peoples, and its leaders
the church universal -- its leaders, its members, and its mission

Our Tithes and Gifts William

Offertory

++THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
O praise God, Alleluia.
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Praise Maker, Christ and Holy Ghost.
O praise God, O praise God.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT Eddie Merrell

CHILDREN'S CHURCH (First Floor-Familyship Hall)

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

II Kings 5:1-14
Galatians 6:7-16
Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20 **(Please rise as you are able.)**

SPECIAL MUSIC

SERMON Rev. Ragona

On Not Going It Alone

THE COLLECT CALL TO CONFESSION Andy Mullins

God, in the power of Jesus we have been sent into the world to proclaim that your salvation is at hand. We are impatient people; we easily grow weary in well doing when the results are not immediately evident. We become self-important when looking at others. How easily we condemn the failings of others without examining our own fruits. We do not correct one another with gentleness and in a spirit of kindness. God, do not judge us as we condemn each other. Have mercy upon us. Forgive us those things which we have done and which we have left undone. Wash us clean that there might be health in us. Hear now our silent confessions...

CHRIST'S PRAYER

"Our Creator, which art in heaven..."

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON

Through Christ, life has been given to us as a new gift for today. We are a new and different people from this moment on! Arise then and walk in the light of Christ!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to God.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.
Celebrant: It is right to give you thanks and praise for you alone are God living and true.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Words of Institution

THE MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH

Christ has died.
Christ is risen
Christ will come again.

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT

Note: Communion is served both at the seats and at the altar; you may choose to take communion at either place.
Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

COMMUNION HYMN 256

The Old Rugged Cross

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

++THE HYMN OF DEDICATION 156

I Love to Tell the Story

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++BENEDICTION

ONE: God go with you.

MANY: And also with you.

CHORAL BENEDICTION

The Lord Bless You and Keep You (Lutkin)

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+++++

++ The congregation will please stand.

+++++

WELCOME VISITORS

Your presence here this morning is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Healing Fear	**7:00 p.m.**
"Moses' Fear and God's Provision"	

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are still accepting offerings for the Cliff Morrison Memorial Apartment at Agape House. This month marks the first anniversary of Cliff's death. We need to raise $7500 for both the initial furnishing of the apartment ($2500) and the maintenance for five years ($1000 a year). We have raised $2118, including the promised matching funds of $1000. We need $382 for the initial furnishing of the apartment. Agape House is now open, and people need to be living there.

Today, immediately following service, dinner will be served in the familyship hall. Bob Tyler, a caterer, is cooking and arranging dinner for us. Cost is $5.00. Tickets are on sale in the lobby. (You'd spend more at Denny's!!)

Monday, 7:00 p.m. Board Meeting.

Tuesday, 8:00 p.m. Forum on General Conference issues chaired by our lay delegates to that conference.

Saturday, July 15, 10-2, Music Copyright Law workshop; everyone who sings, plays, or plans music for the church needs to attend for everyone's legal protection.

Monday, July 17, 6-9, Legal Workshop on Sexual Abuse Issues in the church. Everyone in leadership is particularly asked to attend.

Tuesday, July 18, 8:00 p.m. Deacon Training, sexuality issues (differences between doing drag, cross dressing and transsexualism, sexual addiction, etc.)

Sopranos are needed for the choir. If you sing soprano, or know a soprano who would like to sing with our choir, please speak with Susan Walker.

Watch it! Cathedral of Hope MCC (Dallas), our largest church with 1600 congregants is being broadcast Thursday evenings 11:00, Channel 4, Public Access Cable.

Please help set up for church and put back for the Wedding Chapel if you have a moment before or after the service.

Please! If you unlock a door when you go in, lock it when you come out!

Put this on your calendar: Wednesday, August 2, 7 p.m., the study group will begin "Distorted Images of God." Most of us need to look at the images we have of a vengeful God and learn new ways to relate to God.

Christ Sending Out the Disciples (19th century illustration by J. Tissot)
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mcc
Covenant Metropolitan Community Church
(205)599-3363 5117 First Avenue, North P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 35210

COMMISSIONING OF JOHN HANKINS

ONE: John Hankins has been called from this church to go as pastor of All Saints Metropolitan Community Church in Atlanta. Today, we commission him as he goes out to represent all that is best about Covenant Metropolitan Community Church and carry the things he has learned as a Christian minister to his new congregation.

ONE: There are different gifts, but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

MANY: **There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same God who is being served.**

ONE: God works through different people in different ways.

MANY: **But it is the same God whose purposes are achieved through the people of God.**

ONE: Each person is given gifts by the Spirit to use for the common good.

MANY: **Together we are the body of Christ and individually members of Christ.**

ONE: Although we have different gifts, together we are a ministry of reconciliation led by the risen Christ. We work and pray to make God's church a useful servant in the world; and we call persons to faith so that, in the end, every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is our Sovereign. Let us join together in prayer:

MANY: **We thank you for your servant, John Hankins, whom you called to serve among us.**

JOHN: I thank you, O God, for these your people, who have taught me and welcomed me into their lives in our ministry together.

MANY: **We thank you for John Hankins' special gifts for ministry, and pray that you will guide him as he continues to serve you in your church.**

JOHN: I thank you, O God, for the gifts of faith and the special work of ministry that each of these, your people, will continue to carry out in this church.

MANY: **We thank you, God, for the way that John Hankins has preached, taught, and served as a pastor with us.**

JOHN: I thank you, God, for what I have learned about your church and the richness of a life shared in common ministry.

ONE: For these, and for many other memories and challenges which we all share, accept our thanks, O God.

PRESENTATION

ALL: **Though we now go separate ways in working for your reign, help us to know that we are joined forever in your loving care. Never let friendship fade, but keep us remembering one another and grateful for the life we have shared. In Jesus Christ our Savior, Amen.**

God be with you till we meet again

9.8.8.9. with refrain

GOD BE WITH YOU

In moderate time

1. God be with you till we meet a - gain, By God's counsels guide, uphold you,
2. God be with you till we meet a - gain, Neath God's wings securely hide you,
3. God be with you till we meet a - gain, When life's perils thick confound you,
4. God be with you till we meet a - gain, Keep love's banner floating o'er you,

With the sheep se-cure - ly fold you, God be with you till we meet a - gain.
Dai - ly man-na still pro- vide you, God be with you till we meet a - gain.
Put love's arms un- fail - ing round you, God be with you till we meet a - gain.
Smite death's threat'ning wave before you, God be with you till we meet a - gain.

CHORUS

Till we meet till we meet, Till we meet at Je - sus' feet;
Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet;

Till we meet, Till we meet, God be with you till we meet a-gain. A-MEN.
Till we meet, till we meet,

TEXT: Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1880, alt.
MUSIC: William G. Tomer, 1880
Used by permission of CBP Press

The Hymnal Project, © 1989 MCC San Francisco

11 Lead On, O Cloud of Yahweh

Ruth Duck, ©1974

LANCASHIRE 7.6.7.6.D
Henry T. Smart, 1836

1. Lead on, O cloud of Yah - weh, The ex - o - dus is come;
2. Lead on, O fi - ery pil - lar, We fol - low yet with fears,
3. Lead on, O God of free - dom, Our guid - ing spir - it be;

In wil - der - ness and des - ert Our tribe shall make its home.
But we shall come re - joic - ing Though joy be born of tears.
Though those who start the jour - ney The prom - ise may not see,

Our slav - 'ry left be - hind — us, A vi - sion in us grows,
We are not lost, though wan - der - ing, For by your light we come,
We pray our sons and daugh - ters May live to see that land.

We seek the land of prom - ise Where milk and hon - ey flows.
And we are still God's peo - ple, The jour - ney is our home.
Where jus - tice rules with mer - cy And love is law's de - mand.

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COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor — Susan Walker, Director of Music

Pastoral Leader/Tuscaloosa: Rev.-Elect John Hankins

Student Clergy: Andy Mullins, Greg Bullard

Evening Worship
June 18, 1995
7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP — Peg

ONE: Listen, O God, as we call upon you.
MANY: O God, hear our voice.
ONE: Lead us, God in your righteousness.
MANY: Make your way plain before us.

++THE OPENING HYMN — 339
Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven

++THE OPENING PRAYER — Mark Moore

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS — Mark Moore

HYMN OF CELEBRATION — 425
Cleanse Me

EVENING OFFERING — Dennis Luft
Offertory — Randall

++THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
O praise God, Alleluia.
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Praise Maker, Christ and Holy Ghost.
O praise God, O praise God.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURE
I Kings 21: 1-21a
Galatians 2: 15-21
Luke 7: 36--8: 3

SPECIAL MUSIC — Ty

SERMON — Rev. Ragona
What's in your alabaster bottle?

PRAYER AND MEDITATION — Eddie Merrell

CHRIST'S PRAYER: "Our Creator, who art in heaven..."

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Communion is served both at the seats and at the altar; you may choose to be served at either place.
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Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

COMMUNION MUSIC

++CLOSING HYMN — 462
Living For Jesus

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

++ Please stand.

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REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Quilting Bee - Names Project	2:00 p.m
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Healing Fear	**7:00 p.m.**

"Gideon's Fear and God's Encouragement"

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer) 7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are accepting offerings for the Cliff Morrison Memorial Apartment at Agape House. This month marks the first anniversary of Cliff's death. We need to raise $7500 for both the initial furnishing of the apartment ($2500) and the maintenance for five years ($1000 a year). We have $800 toward the promised matching funds of $1000. We need $700 for the initial furnishing of the apartment.

Monday, June 19, 7:00 p.m. Deacon and Staff Meeting. All deacons, student clergy, deacons in training are asked to attend.

Saturday, June 24, 7 p.m. The church family is invited to the Holy Union of Cheri and Carol McKinnon. Reception follows in the familyship hall. RSVP regrets only, 655-8670.

Saturday, July 8, 9:30 - 5:00, Care Team Training at the Cathedral Church of the Advent.

Watch it! Cathedral of Hope MCC (Dallas), our largest church with 1600 congregants is being broadcast Thursday evenings 11:00, Channel 4, Public Access Cable.

Please help set up for church and put back for the Wedding Chapel if you have a moment before or after the service.

Please! If you unlock a door when you go in, lock it when you come out!

The Woman Who Anoints Jesus' Feet (by Alfred Thomas of India)

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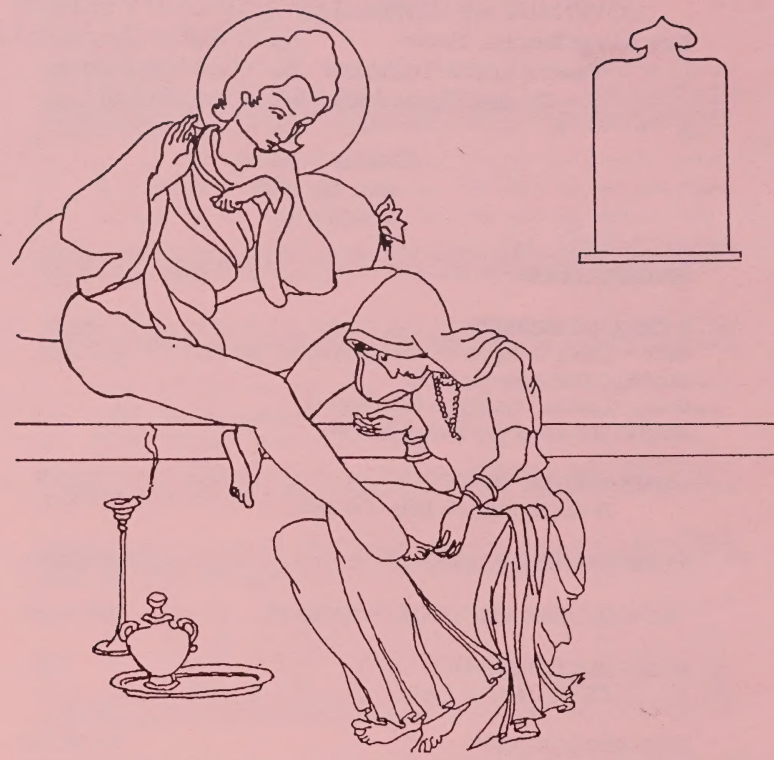

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C0VENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

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\+ + + + +

Dedication of Panels
Names Project Quilt
June 4, 1995

LITANY OF MEMORIAL

ONE: Once in innocence, we plunged into life as though sorrow and brokenness would never find us out.

MANY: How fragile we are, O God, and yet how strong you make us.

ONE: Healing happens, as though a river of joy suddenly springs forth from parched earth.

MANY: How fragile we are, O God, and yet how strong you make us.

ONE: Sometimes we understand what it is like to be an exile, to wander through barren wildernesses, to stumble and fall beneath sorrow so heavy we think we cannot bear it alone.

MANY: How vulnerable we are, O God, and yet how strong you make us.

ONE: Life is full of beauty and sorrow, of love and grief, of receiving and letting go.

MANY: In the face of death, there is the power of new life.

ONE: In the face of death, there is the power of healing.

MANY: Where there is healing, there is love.

ONE: Where there is love, there is strength.

MANY: Where there is strength, there is the power of God.

ONE: O God, we are but sojourners in this world. We are alone, each in our sorrow, but what strength we receive from one another.

MANY: We stand in need of each other and of God. How fragile we are, yet what strength we are given.

ONE: We, as a people of God, arise and go forth, strong in the strength of each other. We arise and go forth, made strong by the One who went before us. Life calls to us, "Come, let us go forward." And life whispers a promise of healing, of strength, of love, and we know we are not alone any longer.

READING

The Intention - Margaret Torrie

Healing is both an exercise
And an understanding
And yet not of the will
Nor of the intention
It is a wisdom
And a deeper knowledge
Of the daily swing
Of life and death
And all creation.
There is a defeat
To overcome
An acceptance of living
To be established.
And always
There must be hope,
Not hope of healing
But the hope which informs
The coming moment
And gives it reason.
The hope which is
each one's breath
The certainty of love
And of loving.
Death may live
In the living,
And healing rise
in the dying
For whom the natural end
is part of the gathering
of the harvest
to be expected.
To know healing
is to know that
All life is one
And there is no beginning
And no end
And the intention is loving.

PRESENTATION OF THE PANELS

IN MEMORIAM

Every day we remember.

With each new panel we accept into our loving care,
with each new community we gently touch,
with each new person who joins in the compassionate response,
we remember.

This epidemic has torn from our lives so many of the very best.
As the journey with the Quilt continues
we remember all of those who helped create The NAMES Project.

We remember those whose lives our panels celebrate,
and those who found hope in stitching them.

We remember those who appeared at our doorstep willing to
sew, cut, fold, box, copy, staple, hammer
Grommet, carry, type, paint, answer phones
And do whatever else was needed.

We remember those who brought the Quilt to communities all
over the world so that people everywhere might respond as one.

We remember those who opened their hearts to us
with gifts of time, talent, and money.

We remember those who opened their arms to us
so that we might find the courage to continue.

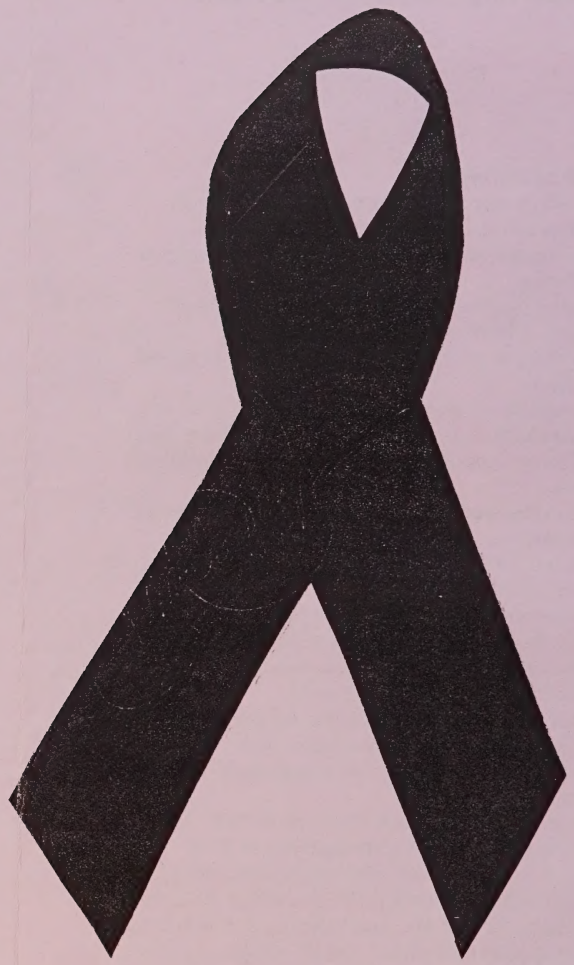
We remember all of those many whose names we may never
know who believed in us and you
that we would make a difference.

Every time we unfold the Quilt
We remember the people who lovingly gave of their lives
to create the NAMES Project.

We remember them....and we miss them.

We miss them every single day.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION



COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor Susan Walker, Director of Music

Pastoral Leader/Tuscaloosa: Rev.-Elect John Hankins

Student Clergy: Andy Mullins, Greg Bullard

Evening Worship
May 21, 1995
7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP Shirley Cooper

ONE: The disciples met the risen Christ as they went about their daily tasks.

MANY: We have gathered because we too want to know the presence of Jesus among us.

ONE: We gather around this table to know Christ in the breaking of bread.

MANY: We will return to the world, seeking to know and to make known Christ's presence there.

ALL: Glory be to God, Creator, Christ, and Spirit of Life in whom we live and move and have our being.

++THE OPENING HYMN 1
For the Beauty of the Earth

++THE OPENING PRAYER Rev. Ragona

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Mark Moore

HYMN OF CELEBRATION 234
He is Lord (sung twice)

EVENING OFFERING Mark Moore
Offertory

++THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
O praise God, Alleluia.
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Praise Maker, Christ and Holy Ghost.
O praise God, O praise God.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURE
Isaiah 50:4-9
Luke 19: 28-40

SPECIAL MUSIC

SERMON
People of God in Suffering Greg Bullard

PRAYER AND MEDITATION Rev. Ragona

CHRIST'S PRAYER: "Our Creator, who art in heaven..."

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Communion is served both at the seats and at the altar; you may choose to be served at either place.
Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

++CLOSING HYMN
God Will Take Care of You 56

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

++ Please stand.

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Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Healing Distorted Images of Self	**7:00 p.m.**

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer) 7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY, Immediately following morning service Parents of Covenant Kids. All parents who have a child attending Covenant, who would like their child(ren) in our summer activity program, need to attend this meeting.

Monday, May 22, 7:00 p.m. Deacon and Staff Meeting.

Tuesday, May 23, 8:15 p.m. Deacon Training, "Stages of Coming Out."

Wednesday study group, "Healing Distorted Images of Self." "Seeing Myself As Wonderfully Made."

Anyone interested in working on Pride Week activities, see Greg Adams. Gay Pride is June 4. Our choir will be singing, and Rev. Marge will be speaking in the park. Covenant will have a float and banner. Join us! (You **can** wear a bag on your head!)

Watch it! Cathedral of Hope MCC (Dallas), our largest church with 1600 congregants is being broadcast Thursday evenings 11:00, Channel 4, Public Access Cable.

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Please! If you unlock a door when you go in, lock it when you come out!

PSALM 121

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills,
from whence cometh my help.
My help cometh from the LORD,
which made heaven and earth.
He will not suffer thy foot to be moved:
he that keepeth thee
will not slumber.
Behold, he that keepeth Israel
shall neither slumber nor sleep.
The LORD is thy keeper:
the LORD is thy shade upon thy
right hand.
The sun shall not smite thee by day,
nor the moon by night.
The LORD shall preserve thee from all evil:
he shall preserve thy soul.
The LORD shall preserve thy going out
and thy coming in from this time forth,
and even for evermore.

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C0VENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
Susan Walker. Director of Music
John Hankins, Student Clergy
Andy Mullins, Student Clergy
Greg Bullard, Student Clergy (Huntsville)

+ + + + + +

Second Sunday after Epiphany
January 22, 1995
11:00 a.m.

CALL TO WORSHIP Kay
ONE: The love of God extends as far as the heavens
MANY: And God's faithfulness extends to the clouds.
ONE: How precious is God's steadfast love,
MANY: For all may take refuge in the shadow of God's wings.

++OPENING HYMN
Great Is Thy Faithfulness *98*

++OPENING PRAYER

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Dennis

OUR GIFTS TO GOD
Our Prayer Offerings Randall
Together, let us pray for:
the people of this congregation
those who suffer and those in trouble
the concerns of our community
the world, its peoples, and its leaders
the church universal -- its leaders, its members and its mission...

Our Tithes and Gifts Dennis
Offertory

++THE DOXOLOGY

BLESSING OF THE RELATIONSHIP, DOTTIE AND TISH

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT Shirley C.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH (First Floor-Familyship Hall)

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES
Isaiah 62:1-5
I Corinthians 12:1-11
++ John 2:1-11 **(Please rise as you are able.)**

SPECIAL MUSIC
Let the Whole Creation Cry "Alleluia!" The Choir
(LeDoux)

SERMON Rev. Marge Ragona
Weddings, Blessings, and the Messianic Banquet

THE COLLECT CALL TO CONFESSION
Your love for us has given us a new name, thaty we might not be called forsaken, but we do not always answer when you call. You have loved us as your own, but we have not always been aware of your presence. In your steadfast love and mercy, for give our sins. By your grace, make us once again shining torches of glory that you might delight in us. Hear now our silent confessions...

CHRIST'S PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON
The good news in Christ is that when we face ourselves and God with the awareness of our need, we are given grace to grow, and courage to continue the journey. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Eddie Merrell
Celebrant: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to God.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution

THE MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH
Christ has died.
Christ is risen
Christ will come again.

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT
Note: Communion is served both at the seats and at the altar; you may choose to take communion at either place.
Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

++THE CLOSING HYMN
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling *21*

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++BENEDICTION
ONE: God go with you.
MANY: And also with you.

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+++++
++ The congregation will please stand.
+++++

WELCOME VISITORS
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Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Healing Spiritual Abuse (Quick-Fix/Perserverence) 7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer) 7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday School begins at 9:30 and runs to 10:30 so choir members can rehearse before worship.

At 2 p.m. there will be the first meeting of the Quilting Bee for the Names Project Quilt. A film will be shown explaining the quilt and its process explained. All are invited.

Monday, January 23, 7:00 p.m. Communion Server training for all who would like to serve at the altar. 8:00 p.m. Usher and Greeter training. We are looking for committed ushers.

Tuesday, January 24, 8:00 p.m. Deacon Training: The Christian Year, its colors and meanings; the lectionary for the year.

FUN NIGHT: If you would like to go to the circus, Saturday evening, tickets are $9.50, $11.50 and $13.50. Please see Eddie Merrell. We will meet at the church at 6:30.

Every member should have received an accounting of their giving for 1994. Nonmembers who gave by check or envelope can find their records by alphabetic order in a box in the vestibule (or see Allan).

Excel Preview: The next Excel of the Rainbow Zebra weekend will be in Toccoa, Georgia, in the mountains, the weekend of March 31-April 2. Registration forms are in the vestibule. Ask anyone with a rainbow stole.

Sunday Music 1/29

The Gift of Love (Hopson)
Choir anthem

sung Tallis Benediction

hymns:
O for a thousand Tongues to Sing

open:

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church
(205)599-3363 5117 First Avenue, North P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 35210

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM REFRESHMENTS

The following are needed for refreshments following the choir and drama group presentation on the evening of December 17. Please choose an item and sign your name next to it, give list to Greg Adams, and please bring your selection next Sunday evening.

Chicken wings

Meat balls

Cheese balls, cheese block

Crackers

Shrimp

Little quiche

Pizza

Veggie Tray

Cakes

Christmas cookies

Soft drinks, tea, coffee

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor Susan Walker, Director of Music
Worship Coordinator/Tuscaloosa: Lee Rahe
In Clergy Formation: Andy Mullins (Atlanta), Greg Bullard (Memphis)
Richard Barham, John Foust, Lee Rahe

Evening Worship
December 10, 1995
7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP Mark Moore

ONE: O God, you never sleep but always watch with infinite care over your children.

MANY: Keep us from growing weary of waiting for your love, lest we miss the glory of your appearing.

ONE: O Christ, bright morning star, awaken us to live today as children of the light.

MANY: Even so, come quickly to our lives and to our world. Amen.

++THE OPENING HYMN
Joy to the World 171

++THE OPENING PRAYER Rev. Ragona

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Dennis Luft

HYMN OF CELEBRATION
Some Children See Him 181

EVENING OFFERING Emmett
Offertory

++THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
O praise God, Alleluia.
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Praise Maker, Christ and Holy Ghost.
O praise God, O praise God.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURE
Genesis 21:10-18
Psalm 6
Luke 2: 8-20

SPECIAL MUSIC Danny

THE SERMON
Where Are We? Andy Mullins

PRAYER AND MEDITATION Rev. Marge Ragona

CHRIST'S PRAYER: "Our Creator, who art in heaven..."

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Communion is served both at the seats and at the altar; you may choose to be served at either place.
Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

COMMUNION MUSIC
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel 169

++CLOSING HYMN
Go Tell It on the Mountain 205

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION AND THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

++ Please stand.

WELCOME VISITORS! Your presence here this evening is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making Covenant MCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer) 7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Building Fund now stands at $71,025. Thank you and thanks be to God!

If you are interested in purchasing a poinsettia in memory or in honor of someone special, cost is $8.00. Please see John Foust. They will be displayed Sunday, December 17th and 24th. You may take them home after service Sunday evening, December 24th.

Monday, December 11, 7:00 p.m. Board Meeting. All Board meetings are open to the congregation.

Tuesday night, December 12, 8:00 p.m. Deacon and Staff meeting.

Saturday, December 16, 3-6 p.m. Rehearsal for Christmas program. Sunday, December 17, afternoon rehearsal for Christmas program. Please be present for these important rehearsals.

Sunday, December 17, 7:00 p.m. ***A Christmas Legend*****, presented by the choir and drama group. You will not want to miss this! Bring friends and family. No communion will be served at the evening service. Please see insert for items needed for refreshments after evening service.**

Friday, December 22, Caroling; 6:30 meet at church, 7:00 p.m., leave church.

Sunday, December 24, 11:00 a.m. regular morning worship. 8:00 p.m. light supper in the familyship hall. 10:30 p.m. Christmas Eve candlelighting service with communion.

Penpals needed to send Christmas cards to our sister church in Birmingham, England. Send cards to Rev. Margaret Simpson, 127 Ardath Road, Kings Norton, Birmingham, B 38 9PG England.

Light ❄ Hope
Joy ❄ Peace

mcc
Covenant Metropolitan Community Church
(205)599-3363 5117 First Avenue, North P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 35210

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Healing Distorted Images of God
"The Disinterested God"

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer) 7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Cliff Morrison Memorial Apartment at Agape House has $2,391 in the fund. When we reach $2500, we can pay to have the apartment furnished and the tenant move in. We need $109.00 to complete this. Over the next five years, we will raise $1000 a year to keep up the apartment.

Our Building Fund now stands at $40, 470. Please pray about contributing to the building fund, so that we can purchase this building. Make your offering in the envelopes provided and mark it "building fund."

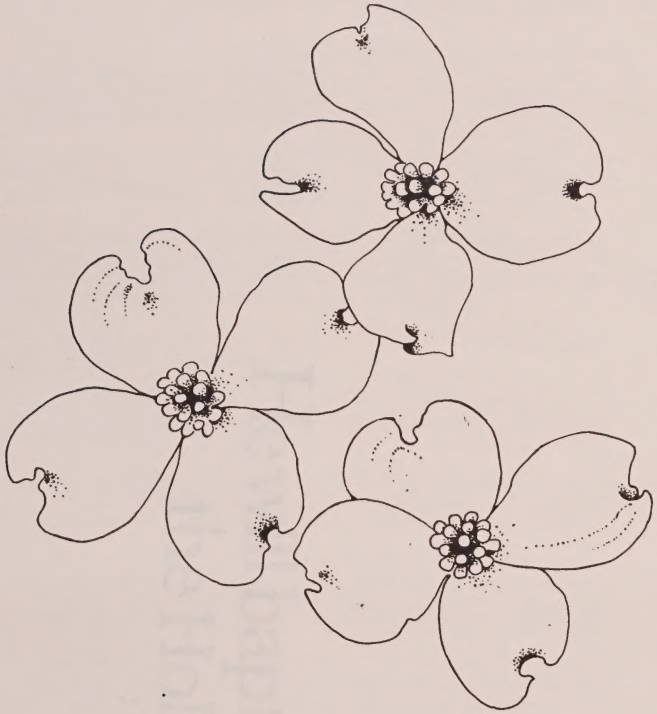
Monday, August 14, Inquirer's Class. "Polity: Christ the Cornerstone;" August 21, "Homosexuality and the Bible." You do not have to commit to becoming a member to take these classes, but the classes are required for membership. Everyone is welcome.

Monday, August 14, 6:00 p.m. Finance Committee; 7:00 p.m. Board Meeting.

Tuesday, August 15 and 22, 8:00 p.m. Deacon Training; Personal Qualifications of Deacons, Ethics and Confidentiality.

Saturday, August 19, 10:00 a.m. Copyright Law Workshop, led by Susan Walker. If you sing or use any copyrighted materials, you need to attend this meeting.

Sunday, August 20, potluck dinner following church. Congregational meeting after dinner. Agenda: To purchase/not purchase this building.



HE IS RISEN!

THE BEATITUDES

Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.
Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.
Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.
Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.
Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.
Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:3-10

He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.

Mark 1:8*b* (NRSV)

A Commitment on HIV/AIDS by All People of Faith

We are members of different faith communities called by God to affirm a life of hope and healing in the midst of HIV/AIDS. The enormity of the pandemic itself has compelled us to join forces despite our differences of belief. Our traditions call us to embody and proclaim hope, and to celebrate life and healing in the midst of suffering.

AIDS is an affliction of the whole human family, a condition in which we all participate. It is a scandal that many people suffer and grieve in secret. We seek hope amidst the moral and medical tragedies of this epidemic in order to pass on hope for generations to come.

We recognize that there have been barriers among us based on religion, race, class, age, gender, and sexual orientation which have generated fear, persecution and even violence. We call upon all sectors of our society, particularly our faith communities, to adopt as highest priority the confrontation of racism, classism, ageism, sexism, and homophobia.

As long as one member of the human family is afflicted, we all suffer. In that spirit, we declare our response to the AIDS pandemic.

1. **We are called to love.** God does not punish with sickness or disease, but is present together with us as the source of our strength, courage and hope. The God of our understanding is, in fact, greater than AIDS.

2. **We are called to compassionate care.** We must assure that all who are affected by the pandemic [regardless of age, race, gender, nationality or sexual orientation] will have access to compassionate, non-judgmental care, respect, support and assistance.

3. **We are called to witness and do justice.** We are committed to transform public attitudes and policies, supporting the enforcement of all local and federal laws to protect the civil liberties of all persons with AIDS and other disabilities. We further commit to speak publicly about AIDS prevention and compassion for all people.

4. **We promote prevention.** Within the context of our respective faiths, we encourage accurate and comprehensive information for the public regarding HIV transmission and means of prevention. We vow to develop comprehensive AIDS prevention programs for our youths and adults.

5. **We acknowledge that we are a global community.** While the scourge of AIDS is devastating to the United States, it is much greater in magnitude in other parts of the world community. We recognize our responsibility to encourage AIDS education and prevention policies, especially in the global religious programs we support.

6. **We deplore the sins of intolerance and bigotry.** AIDS is not a "gay" disease. It affects men, women and children of all races. We reject the intolerance and bigotry that has caused many to deflect their energy, blame the victims and become preoccupied with the issues of sexuality, worthiness, class status, or chemical dependency.

7. **We challenge our society.** Because economic disparity and poverty are major contributing factors in the AIDS pandemic and barriers to prevention and treatment, we call upon all sectors of society to seek ways of eliminating poverty in a commitment to a future of hope and security.

8. **We are committed to action.** We will seek ways, individually and within our faith communities, to respond to the needs around us.

This statement was drafted by the Council of National Religious AIDS Networks meeting in Washington, DC in May, 1994.

An Interfaith AIDS Memorial Service

Baptist Church of the Covenant
2117 Eighth Avenue South
Birmingham, Alabama

Sponsoring Organizations

A Baby's Place of Alabama, Inc.
AIDS Education and Ministry Project
AIDS Task Force of Alabama
Alabama Hospice Organization
Birmingham AIDS Outreach
Birmingham Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center
CareTenders
Children's Aid Society
The Family Clinic at Children's Hospital of Alabama
Jefferson County AIDS in Minorities
Jefferson County Health Department
St. George's Clinic, Cooper Green Hospital
UAB AIDS Center
UAB 1917 Clinic

Worship Order

December 1, 1995
7:00 p.m.

Prelude		Peggy Hall, Organist
Call to Worship		Malcolm Marler
Hymn	*Great Is Thou Faithfulness*	54
Opening Prayer		Malcolm Marler
Scripture Reading	Isaiah 40:28-31	Dee Dee
Anthem	*Out of the Deep . . .*	John Rutter
	Jo Ann Strickland, cello, and The Choir	
Scripture Reading	Romans 8:31-39	Sheila Catherine Fuoco
Anthem	*None Other Lamb . . .*	Jane Marshall
	Jo Ann Strickland, cello, and The Choir	
A Reflection	*Stop All The Clocks . . .*	Robert Dorsett
Meditation		Susan Clayton
Remembering Those Who Have Died of AIDS		Congregation

(Please come to one of the two microphones in the aisle if you would like to say the name of someone you would like for us to remember.)

Prayer of Thanksgiving		Susan Clayton
A Musical Offering	*This Is The Moment*	Frank Wildhorn
	Michael King	
Time of Support for People Living with HIV/AIDS		Congregation

(Please come to one of the two microphones in the aisle if you would like to say the name of someone you would like for us to remember.)

Prayer of Hope		Marge Ragona
Closing Hymn	*Amazing Grace*	330
Benediction		Marge Ragona
Postlude		Peggy Hall, Organist

Special Thanks To

Baptist Church of the Covenant, Dr. Roger Lovette, pastor
Baptist Church of the Covenant Choir
Minuteman Press, Inc. for Worship Bulletins

Participants

Peggy Hall	Organist, Baptist Church of the Covenant
Dr. Malcolm Marler	Chaplain, UAB 1917 Clinic
Dee Dee	Person living with HIV
Sheila Catherine Fuoco	Person living with HIV
Robert Dorsett	Person living with HIV
Rev. Susan Clayton	Associate Pastor, First Presbyterian Church
Michael King	Person living with HIV
Rev. Marge Ragona	Pastor, Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

TUSCALOOSA PARISH EXTENSION OF
COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy
Andy Mullins, Student Clergy
Greg Bullard, Student Clergy (Huntsville)

▼ ▼ ▼

November, 20, 1994
3 p.m.

++Call to Worship

One Create in us clean hearts, O God.
Many And renew a right spirit within us.
One Restore to us the joy of our salvation.
Many And uphold us with a willing spirit.

++Opening Hymn

++Opening Prayer

Welcome and Announcements

Our Gifts to God

Our Prayer Offerings

Together, let us pray for:
the people of this congregation
those who suffer and those in trouble
the concerns of our community
the world, its peoples, and its leaders
the church universal — its, leaders, its members
and its mission …

Our Tithes and Gifts
Offertory

++ The Doxology

The Children's Moment

Readings from the Scriptures
Hebrews 10:1-14
Matthew 20:1-16

Special Music Dottie

The Sermon John Hankins
"Welcome Chosen One"

The Collect Call to Confession

Gracious and everlasting God, we come to you this day in search of your will and your way for our lives. Too often we have wanted and expected things which, had we received them, would have been disastrous. Help us start to appreciate the many gifts and opportunities which you have so graciously bestowed upon us in your love and mercy. Save us we pray from the desire of that which we cannot or should not have. All this we pray in the name of the one named Christ who is with us and for us always. Amen.

Christ's Prayer

Words of Assurance and Pardon

In Christ, we are given new life. The old is gone away. The new is before us. We are freed to live fully in the present. That is the good news that sets us free to love!

The Great Thanksgiving Nancy Moody

Celebrant: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to God.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

++ Please rise as you are able.

Invitation to Holy Communion
Words of Institution

The Mystery of Our Faith
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Sharing of the Sacrament

Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.

Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

++ The Closing Hymn

++ Our Familyship Circle

++ Benediction

++ The Passing of the Peace

Welcome Visitors

Your presence here is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making MCC your church home. Let us know how we can serve you. Welcome.

Together in God's Love

Tuscaloosa Parish Extension

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor Mark Cobb, Interim Choir Director
Worship Coordinator/Tuscaloosa: Dr. Lee Rahe
In Clergy Formation: Andy Mullins (Atlanta), Greg Bullard (Memphis)
Richard Barham, John Foust, Dr. Lee Rahe

Evening Worship
March 10, 1996
7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP Dennis Luft

ONE: We gather as pilgrims on a journey of faith.
MANY: We come seeking the awareness of God's presence as we travel on.
ONE: We come seeking light for our darkness, strength in our weakness.
MANY: Shine in our hearts, O God, with the light of your love. Make your presence known through Jesus the Christ.

++THE OPENING HYMN
He Keeps Me Singing 587

++THE OPENING PRAYER Rev. Ragona

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Shirley Lambert

HYMN OF CELEBRATION
I Believe In A Hill Called Mount Calvary 270

EVENING OFFERING Mark Moore
Offertory

++THE DOXOLOGY
Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
O praise God, Alleluia.
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Praise Maker, Christ and Holy Ghost.
O praise God, O praise God.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURE
Isaiah 49: 8-18
I Corinthians 4: 1-5
Matthew 6: 24-34

SPECIAL MUSIC Debbie Tate

THE SERMON Cal McCloskey
Why Worry? Be Happy

PRAYER AND MEDITATION Rev Marge Ragona

CHRIST'S PRAYER: "Our Creator, who art in heaven..."

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

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Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

COMMUNION MUSIC
Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus 621

++CLOSING HYMN
God Will Take Care of You 56

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION AND THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

++ Please stand.

WELCOME VISITORS! Your presence here this evening is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making Covenant MCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Inquirer's Class - Bible/Homosexuality	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.
MONDAY Instrumentalists practice	6:30 p.m.
TUESDAY	
Choir Praise	6:30 p.m.
THURSDAY	
Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Monday, March 11, 6:00 p.m. Building and Grounds Committee to form a sub-committee, i.e Design, Decorators, style consultants, etc. are invited to meet to talk about church paint colors and uniformity of design. 7:00 p.m. Board meeting.

Tuesday, March 12: 8 p.m. Excel: Sharing of Friends.

Wednesday, March 13 , 7:00 p.m. Lenten contemplative prayer study, "The Many Faces of God." This week: Born of God Our Mother.

Saturday, March 16, 2-5 GALAA meets in the Fellowship Hall.

EASTER PLANNING: Maundy Thursday, April 4, 6:30 p.m. : Seder (Passover celebration) with full roast lamb dinner, $5.00, tickets are on sale in lobby before and after church, (limit 100, please get tickets early). See Missy Ragona.

Good Friday, April 5, Tenebrae Service, Reenactment of the events leading up to the cruicifixion, the crucifixion and burial according to Matthew.

Easter Dawn, April 7, 6:00 a.m. Service at Eastlake followed by breakfast at the church. Everyone is welcome.

Morning Service, April 7, 11 a.m. with special Easter music by the choir.

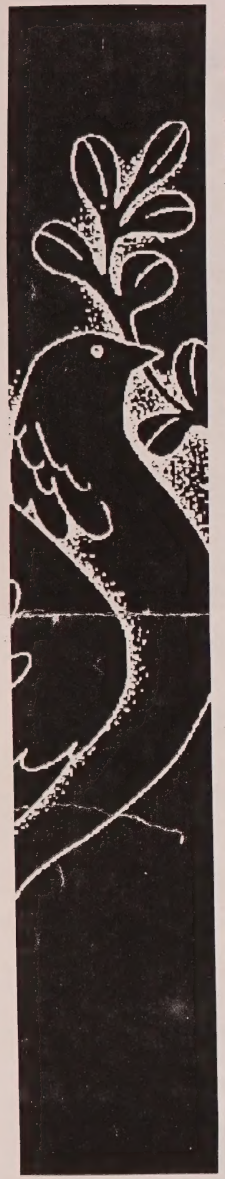
Easter night, April 7, 7 p.m. Easter cantata, "The Day He Wore My Crown." Bring friends, this is special.

Grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord.

II Peter 3:18

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

(205)326-8529 3001 Fourth Avenue, South P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 35210



Tuscaloosa Parish Extension *of*
Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
Rev.-Elect John Hankins, Tuscaloosa Pastoral Leader
Andy Mullins, Student Clergy
Greg Bullard, Student Clergy

July 9, 1995
4 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

† CALL TO WORSHIP

One	Let us gather with the faithful in worshipping the God made known to us through Jesus Christ.
Many	**To God be blessings and honor, glory and might, forever and ever.**
One	Let us gather in God's presence singing songs of praise and joy with the people of God in every place and time.
All	**Holy, Holy, Holy, great God of hosts, the whole earth is full of your glory. Glory be to you, O God, most high.**

† OPENING HYMN

† OPENING PRAYER

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

† HYMN OF CELEBRATION

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

PRAYER OFFERINGS

Together, let us pray for:
the people of this congregation
those who suffer and those in trouble
the concerns of our community
the world, its people, and its leaders
the church universal — its leaders,
its members and its mission...

OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY

† THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below
Oh praise God, Hallelujah
Praise God above ye heavenly host
Praise Maker, Christ, and Holy Ghost
Oh praise God, Oh praise God
Hallelujah, Hallelujah,
Hallelujah

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

II Kings 5: 1-14
Galatians 6: 7-16
Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20

SPECIAL MUSIC

SERMON Rev.-Elect John Hankins

SILENT PRAYERS AND CONFESSION

CHRIST'S PRAYER "Our Creator, which art in heaven..."

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant	God be with you.
People	**And also with you**
Celebrant	Lift up your hearts.
People	**We lift them up to God.**
Celebrant	Let us give thanks to God.
People	**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**
Celebrant	It is right to give you, O God, thanks and praise for you are the only one and true living God.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
The Prayer of Thanksgiving

† THE CLOSING HYMN

† OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE, BENEDICTION AND THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

† Please rise as you are able.
NOTE: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.

Welcome visitors...

Your presence here is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making MCC your church home. Let us know how we can serve you. Welcome.

leadership – pastoral
New Members' in early Aug.
Cheaper place to meet $52.50
Bible Study –

Song leader	Dottie Cook
Music	Tish Smith

345-2044
Share our number
with a friend...

Tuscaloosa Parish Extension *of*
Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor Susan Walker, Director of Music

Student Clergy: John Hankins, Andy Mullins, Greg Bullard

Evening Worship

March 26, 1995

7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP Eddie Merrell

ONE: We are on a journey of faith.

MANY: We travel with Jesus Christ as our guide.

ONE: The promises of God go before us and give us strength for the journey.

MANY: But still, in the wilderness, we become impatient and rebellious and lose our way.

ONE: We gather, seeking to be fed by the manna of God's Word, to rediscover the paths of righteousness.

MANY: O God, your Word os a lamp unto our feet and a light to our path.

++THE OPENING HYMN

How Firm a Foundation 32

++THE OPENING PRAYER

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Mark Moore

HYMN OF CELEBRATION

Wonderful Words of Life 29

EVENING OFFERING Dennis Luft

Offertory Rick Allred

++THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
O praise God, Alleluia.
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Praise Maker, Christ and Holy Ghost.
O praise God, O praise God.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

READINGS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURE

I Kings 17:8-9, 17-24
Ephesians 3:13-21
Luke 7:11-17

SPECIAL MUSIC Mark Cobb

SERMON Rev. Ragona

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

CHRIST'S PRAYER: "Our Creator, who art in heaven..."

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION Steve Parker

Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Communion is served both at the seats and at the altar; you may choose to be served at either place.
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Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

COMMUNION SOLO Dennis Luft

++CLOSING HYMN

Burdens Are Lifted at Calvary 60

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

++ Please stand.

WELCOME VISITORS! Your presence here this evening is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Quilting Bee - Names Project	2:00 p.m
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Encounters With Jesus	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are trying something new. The ushers will move back through the congregation, inviting people to come forward to communion. You may go then, or you may wait, but we encourage people to come forward as the ushers indicate.

Monday, March 26, 7:00 p.m. Deacon and Staff meeting.

Tuesday, March 27, 6:00 p.m. Newsletter mailing.
8 p.m.: Deacon Training, Hospital visitation.

Wednesday, March 22: Encounters with Jesus. Prayer/Meditation study for Lent. Everyone is welcome.

EXCEL: Time has run out. The Excel of the Rainbow Zebra weekend will be in Toccoa, Georgia, in the mountains, this weekend, March 31-April 2. Registration forms are in the vestibule. Ask anyone with a rainbow stole.

Mark your calendar: Easter planning - Maundy Thursday, April 14, 6:30. Seder (includes dinner at the church for $5.00), Good Friday, April 15, Tenebrae Service 7 p.m., Easter Dawn Service at Eastlake Park 6 a.m., followed by breakfast at the church, 8 a.m. Special 11:00 a.m. service, and choir presentation Easter night, 7 p.m.

HELP NEEDED: We need people who can come a few minutes early and help set up for worship and others who can stay a few minutes late and replace Wedding Chapel fixtures in the evening. See Allan and/or John Foust if you can help. Also needed is a sound operator (male or female) for each service.

Dearest Lord, teach me
to be generous;
Teach me to serve thee
as thou deservest;
To give and
not to count the cost,
To fight and
not to heed the wounds,
To toil and
not to seek for rest,
To labour and
not to seek reward,
Save that of knowing
that I do thy will.

Ignatius of Loyola

CMCC
Covenant Metropolitan Community Church
5417 First Avenue North P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 35210

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor Susan Walker, Director of Music

Student Clergy: John Hankins, Andy Mullins, Greg Bullard

Evening Worship

April 2, 1995

7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP Cal

ONE: From the wanderings of our lives, we have come to gather here.

MANY: We bring life with us to this time and place.

ONE: Come here, offering your lives before God.

MANY: And the presence of God will go with us and remain with us in our work, play, resting, and service.

++THE OPENING HYMN

Down at the Cross 255

++THE OPENING PRAYER

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Steve Parker

HYMN OF CELEBRATION

The Blood Will Never Lose Its Power *262*

EVENING OFFERING William

Offertory

++THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
O praise God, Alleluia.
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Praise Maker, Christ and Holy Ghost.
O praise God, O praise God.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

READINGS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURE

Luke 4: 16-21

SPECIAL MUSIC

DRAMATIC READING Peg Schoettlin

The Ragman

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

CHRIST'S PRAYER: "Our Creator, who art in heaven..."

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION Rev. Ragona

Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Communion is served both at the seats and at the altar; you may choose to be served at either place.
Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

COMMUNION SOLO

++CLOSING HYMN

I Believe in a Hill Called Mount Calvary 270

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

++ Please stand.

WELCOME VISITORS! Your presence here this evening is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Quilting Bee - Names Project	2:00 p.m
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Encounters With Jesus	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer) 7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are trying something new. The ushers will move back through the congregation, inviting people to come forward to communion. You may go then, or you may wait, but we encourage people to come forward as the ushers indicate.

Monday, April 3, 7:00 p.m. DEBATE with the Church of Christ: Does the Bible condemn homosexuality?

Tuesday, April 4, 8 p.m.: Council on Ministries meeting.

Wednesday, April 5, 7 p.m.: Encounters with Jesus. Prayer/Meditation study for Lent. Everyone is welcome.

Easter Planning: Maundy Thursday, April 14, 6:30. Seder (includes dinner at the church for $5.00), Good Friday, April 15, Tenebrae Service 7 p.m., Easter Dawn Service at Eastlake Park 6 a.m., followed by breakfast at the church, 8 a.m. Special 11:00 a.m. service, and choir presentation "Our Easter Story," Easter Sunday at 7:00 p.m.

HELP NEEDED: We need people who can come a few minutes early and help set up for worship and others who can stay a few minutes late and replace Wedding Chapel fixtures in the evening. See Allan and/or John Foust if you can help. Also needed is a sound operator (male or female) for each service, and a Sunday School teacher for the youth department (11-14 year olds).

Watch Cathedral of Hope MCC on Channel 4, Public Access Cable, at 11p.m. Thursday. This week Rev. Michael Piazza "Erythrophobia: Fear of Blushing."

MCC

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

(205)599-3363 5117 First Avenue, North P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 35210

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Quilting Bee - Names Project	2:00 p.m
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WEDNESDAY

Encounters With Jesus	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Today we are recognizing those who are Friends of the Church with a potluck in their honor after the service. A Friend is similar to an associate member, with all rights except the right to vote at congregational meetings. Friends may be prohibited by conscience from becoming members but are welcome anyway.

This Sunday we will be receiving our monthly Third Sunday offering for the Building Fund. Please place your Building Fund offering in an envelope and mark it. Where will we be in 2000? Each of us can help Covenant be in our own building by then.

Monday, March 20, 7:00 p.m. Inquirers' Classes (Homosexuality and the Bible, led by John Hankins) and on Saturday, March 25th . 10:00 a.m. (Faith, Organization of MCCs, with lunch provided) with Homosexuality and the Bible at 1:30 led by Rev. Ragona. The full series of three classes is required for membership, but you do not need to commit to becoming a member to attend. Everyone is welcome. If you are interested in membership, speak with the Pastor.

Tuesday, March 21: Deacon Training, Inclusivity.

Wednesday, March 22: Encounters with Jesus. Prayer/Meditation study for Lent. Everyone is welcome.

EXCEL: Time is running out. The next Excel of the Rainbow Zebra weekend will be in Toccoa, Georgia, in the mountains, the weekend of March 31-April 2. Registration forms are in the vestibule. Ask anyone with a rainbow stole.

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HELP NEEDED: We need people who can come a few minutes early and help set up for worship and others who can stay a few minutes late and replace Wedding Chapel fixtures in the evening. See Allan and/or John Foust if you can help. Also needed is a sound operator (male or female) for each service.

A Sunday School teacher for the Youth Department is needed. Someone with a love for young teens and some teaching experience is needed to love and lead our children.

Watch it! Cathedral of Hope MCC (Dallas), our largest church with 1600 congregants is being broadcast Thursday evenings 11:00, Channel 4, Public Access Cable.

MUSIC COPYRIGHT INFORMATION: *On Wings of Morning* (Lobe Den Herren) and *Christ's Word to Us Is Like a Burning Fire* (National Hymn) words are by Jane Parker Huber , used by permission CCLI License 880748.

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C0VENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH
Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor Susan Walker, Director of Music
Student Clergy: John Hankins, Andy Mullins, Greg Bullard

+ + + + + +

Third Sunday in Lent
March 19, 1995
11:00 a.m.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Steve Parker

++CALL TO WORSHIP Eddie Merrell

ONE: Because the steadfast love of God is better than life,
MANY: Our lips shall praise our God.
ONE: Let us bless God as long as we live;
MANY: We lift our hands and call upon God's name.

OPENING PRAYER

++OPENING HYMN
On Wings of Morning Printed

RECOGNITION OF FRIENDS

DEDICATION OF DEACONS

OUR GIFTS TO GOD
Our Prayer Offerings Randall
Together, let us pray for:
the people of this congregation
those who suffer and those in trouble
the concerns of our community
the world, its peoples, and its leaders
the church universal -- its leaders, its members, and its mission

Our Tithes and Gifts Mark Moore
Offertory

++THE DOXOLOGY
Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
O praise God, Alleluia.
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Praise Maker, Christ and Holy Ghost.
O praise God, O praise God.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT Mark Cobb

CHILDREN'S CHURCH (First Floor-Familyship Hall)

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES
Isaiah 55: 1-9
I Corinthians 10:1-13
++ Luke 13: 1-9 **(Please rise as you are able.)**

SPECIAL MUSIC The Choir
"Promised Land" (Natalie Sleeth)

SERMON Rev. Ragona
One Additional Year

THE COLLECT CALL TO CONFESSION
God, from generation to generation you have sustained your people. In the deserts of life, you bring forth water. When we encounter the storms of life, you are our refuge. You nurture us as your own beloved, but sometimes we do not bear fruit. We are not satisfied. We see the comforts of this world and dishonor you, the Giver of every good gift. We know our errors and your mercy. Forgive our sins and free us to follow with you in your righteous ways. Hear now our silent confessions...

CHRIST'S PRAYER
"Our Creator, which art in heaven..."

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON
We have this assurance that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Mark Brown

Celebrant: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to God.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.
Celebrant: It is right to give you thanks and praise for you alone are God living and true.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution

THE MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH
Christ has died.
Christ is risen
Christ will come again.

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT
Note: Communion is served both at the seats and at the altar; you may choose to take communion at either place.
Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

COMMUNION HYMN
Softly and Tenderly 432

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

++THE CLOSING HYMN (Verses, 1,3,5 and 6)
Christ's Word to Us Is Like a Burning Fire Printed

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++BENEDICTION
ONE: God go with you.
MANY: And also with you.

CHORAL BENEDICTION The Choir
Tallis Canon

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+++++

++ The congregation will please stand.

+++++

WELCOME VISITORS
Your presence here this morning is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

C O M M U N I T Y F E L L O W S H I P C H U R C H
1111 Belleview, Columbia, SC 29204 June 21, 1992
Rev'd Gilbert H. Lincoln, Pastor 803: 738-0718

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

PRELUDE: This is the time to be still and listen for the Still Small Voice of God

PRAYER, WELCOME, and Announcements

HYMN #43 — Great is thy Faithfulness

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON — I Kings 8:22-23,27-30,41-43

RESPONSIVE READING — from Psalm 43

Send forth your light and your fidelity;
they shall lead me on.

BRING ME TO YOUR MOUNTAIN, TO YOUR DWELLING PLACE.

Then I will go in to the altar of my God.

THEN I WILL GIVE THANKS UPON THE HARP TO THE GOD OF MY GLADNESS AND MY JOY.

Why are you downcast, O my soul?
Why do you sigh within me?

HOPE IN GOD; I SHALL THANK GOD IN THE PRESENCE OF MY SAVIOR AND MY GOD.

COMMUNITY PRAYER
We begin to become the body of Christ as we pray with and for each other. You're invited to share your thankfulness and needs, and to request prayer for others.

HYMN (Printed) — Christ for the World we Sing

The EPISTLE — Galatians 1:1-2, 6-10

The GOSPEL — Luke 7:1-10

SERMON — Rev'd Marge Ragona
"A God for All People"

HYMN #497 — Near to the Heart of God

OFFERING OF TITHES and Gifts
Prayer of Dedication

HOLY COMMUNION is offered freely to everyone. There are no conditions to be fulfilled. Just come as you are, and let God begin to make you what you may become.

HYMN #298 — O Zion, Haste

BENEDICTION and Postlude

+ + + + + + + +

Our guest speaker today is the Rev'd Marge Ragona, associate pastor of First Metropolitan Community Church of Atlanta. She did part of her training for ministry with Rev'd Gil Lincoln at MCC New York.

Today is Gay Pride Day in Columbus. We wish all of you a great Pride Day, and welcome all those who are visiting with us on this occasion.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARTICIPATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL, Sunday at 9:45

RAP, Tuesday at 7 to 8:30.

If you know anyone who is ill or hospitalized, please notify Gil or Steve so that they can be visited with prayer and love.

O Zion, Haste, Thy Mission High Fulfilling

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations . . . . — Matthew 28:19

TIDINGS
James Walch

Mary A. Thomson

1 O Zi - on, haste, thy mis-sion high ful - fill - ing, To tell to
2 *Pro - claim to ev - ery peo - ple, tongue, and na - tion That God in*
3 Give of thy best to bear the mes - sage glo - rious, Give of thy

1 all the world that God is light; That He who made all na - tions
2 *whom they live and move is love; Tell how He stooped to save His*
3 wealth to speed them on their way; Pour out thy soul for them in

1 is not will - ing One soul should per - ish, lost in shades of night.
2 *lost cre - a - tion, And died on earth that we might live a - bove.*
3 prayer vic - to - rious, And haste the com - ing of the glo - rious day.

Pub - lish glad ti - dings, ti - dings of peace,

Ti - dings of Je - sus, re - demp - tion, and re - lease. A - men.

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor **Susan Walker, Director of Music**

Worship Coordinator/Tuscaloosa: Lee Rahe

In Clergy Formation: Andy Mullins, Greg Bullard

Evening Worship

August 27, 1995

7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP Cliff Tinney

ONE: What does this worship service need?

MANY: Quiet where faith may grow, song that blossoms hope, scripture that emembers love, honest words to untangle a small length of knotty xistence, gifts offering service of the heart.

ONE: Who shall come to this worship service?

MANY: All who have prayer at the center of their lives and all who are lonely for the touch of God.

++THE OPENING HYMN

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling 21

++THE OPENING PRAYER Rev. Ragona

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Steve Parker

HYMN OF CELEBRATION

I Will Serve Thee 397

EVENING OFFERING William

Offertory

++THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
O praise God, Alleluia.
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Praise Maker, Christ and Holy Ghost.
O praise God, O praise God.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

SERMON IN SONG Upon this Rock Break **Karen Ann Edwards**

LOVE OFFERING

PRAYER AND MEDITATION Rev. Ragona

CHRIST'S PRAYER: "Our Creator, who art in heaven..."

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Communion is served both at the seats and at the altar; you may choose to be served at either place.
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Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

COMMUNION MUSIC

In The Garden 588

++CLOSING HYMN

Take The Name of Jesus With You 231

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION AND THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

++ Please stand.

WELCOME VISITORS! Your presence here this evening is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Healing Distorted Images of God
"The Disinterested God"

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer) 7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

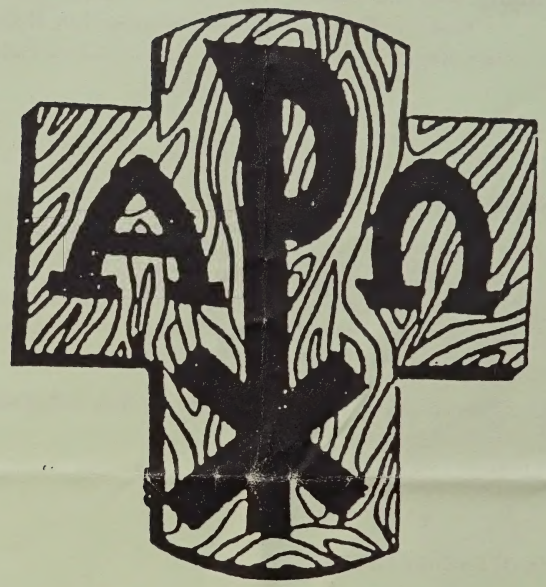
There will be supper after the worship service tonight. Everyone is invited to stay and eat with us. Karen Ann will have tapes and CDs available for sale.

Our Building Fund now stands at $41,572. Please pray about contributing to the building fund, so that we can purchase this building. Make your offering in the envelopes provided and mark it "building fund."

We have completed the first $2500 for the Cliff Morrison Memorial Apartment at Agape House. Thanksgiving for all who participated. We will be presenting the check to Agape House on September 10th at the evening service.

Inquirer's classes will be taught at the Sunday School hour, 9:30 a.m. , beginning September 10th. If you are interested in church membership or just in the beliefs of MCC, please attend then. The first class will be on "Faith and Our Beliefs," taught by Rev. Ragona. September 17, "Polity: Christ the Cornerstone;" and September 24, "Homosexuality and the Bible."

Tuesday, August 29, no deacon training.



mcc

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Worship Coordinator/Tuscaloosa: Dr. Lee Rahe

In Clergy Formation: Andy Mullins (Atlanta), Greg Bullard (Memphis)

Richard Barham, John Foust, Dr. Lee Rahe

\+ + + + + +

Sixth Sunday in Lent
March 31, 1996
Morning Worship, 11:00 a.m.

***The Congregation will please stand**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Steve Parker

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Peg Schoettlin

ONE: O God, you are my God, I will give thanks to you.

MANY: You are my God, I will extol you.

ONE: Blessed is the One who comes in the name of our God.

MANY: Hosanna in the highest.

***COLLECT AND THANKSGIVING OVER THE PALMS**

ONE: God be with you.

MANY: And also with you.

ONE: Let us give thanks unto our God.

MANY: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

ONE: It is indeed right to praise and bless you, Almighty God, for the acts of love by which you have redeemed us through Jesus the Christ.

MANY: We remember the day when Jesus entered the holy city of Jerusalem and there was proclaimed King by those who spread their garments and palm branches in his path.

ONE: As we recall his coming in victory, so we ask that you will bless these branches, that they may be for us signs of the victory which is yet to come.

MANY: We pray that as we carry them in Christ's name, so we may ever acknowledge him as our Sovereign and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life;

ALL: Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God in glory everlasting. Amen.

***OPENING PRAYER** Mark Brown

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

We're Marching to Zion 550

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Our Prayer Offerings Randall

Together, let us pray for:
the people of this congregation
those who suffer and those in trouble
the concerns of our community
the world, its peoples, and its leaders
the church universal -- its leaders, its members, and its mission

Our Tithes and Gifts Allan Francis

Offertory: *We are Singing* (Hopson)

***THE DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
O praise God, Alleluia.
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Praise Maker, Christ and Holy Ghost.
O praise God, O praise God.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT Eddie Merrell

CHIILDREN'S CHURCH (First Floor-Familyship Hall)

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Isaiah 50: 4-9a
Philippians 2: 5-11
* Matthew 21:1-11 **(Please rise as you are able.)**

ANTHEM The Choir

Hosanna (Holm/McKinney)

SERMON Mark Brown

Through A Donkey's Eyes

THE COLLECT CALL TO CONFESSION

God, you sent Jesus to be our sovereign, and so we offer our praise to you. Because he did not hold himself above us, but came to live as one of us, we sing our hosannas to him and give thanks to you, but do not live in thankfulness. We do not attend to you in prayer, we neglect to study your word; we forget to feast at your table. We come to you and ask your mercy upon us. Do not remember our sin, but heal us and forgive us. Hear now our silent confessions...

CHRIST'S PRAYER "Our Creator, which art in heaven..."

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON

The good news is that we depend, not on ourselves, but on the Spirit of God to give us life. We are forgiven and forgiven, thanks be to God. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to God.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.
Celebrant: It is right to give you thanks and praise for you alone are God living and true.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Words of Institution

THE MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH

Christ has died.
Christ is risen
Christ will come again.

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT

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Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
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Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Here, O My Lord Printed

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

***THE HYMN OF CELEBRATION**

Jesus Shall Reign Printed

***OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE**

*** BENEDICTION**

CHORAL BENEDICTION The Choir

Antiphonal Alleluia (Schram)

***THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY		
	Inquirer's Class: Polity/Government	9:30 a.m.
	Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
	Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.
MONDAY	Instrumentalists practice	6:30 p.m.
TUESDAY		
	Choir Praise	6:30 p.m.
WEDNESDAY:	**The Many Faces of God**	7:00 p.m.
THURSDAY		
	Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tuesday, April 2, 8 p.m. Council on Ministries. Begin Gay Pride Planning.

Wednesday, April 3, 7:00 p.m. Lenten contemplative prayer study, "The Many Faces of God." This week: God, the Midwife enables us.

Maundy Thursday, April 4, 6:30 p.m. : Seder (Passover celebration) with full roast lamb dinner, $5.00, tickets are on sale in lobby before and after church, (limit 100, please get tickets now, so we can buy the food). See Missy Ragona.

Good Friday, April 5, Tenebrae Service, Reenactment of the events leading up to the cruicifixion, the crucifixion and burial according to Matthew.

Saturday, April 6, Workday at the Church, beginning at 9:00. Cleanup for Easter and landscaping (until 4 p.m.).

Easter Dawn, April 7, 6:00 a.m. Service at Eastlake Park at the Pavilion on the lake, followed by breakfast at the church. Everyone is welcome.

Morning Service, April 7, 11 a.m. with special Easter music by the choir.

Easter night, April 7, 7 p.m. Easter cantata, "The Day He Wore My Crown." Bring friends, this is special. The choir is wonderful!!

District Conference, May 17, 18, and 19 in Nashville. Registration forms are in the lobby; please see Shirley Lambert or Wes Fortner, our delegates, for more information.

For Your Information

Members	**128**	**Agape House**	**$1000**
Attendance	**147**	**Year to Date**	**$345**
Budget	**$8,316**		
MTD	**$6,905**		
Last Sunday	**$1,564**	**Given from CAF**	**$210**

Jesus' Entry to Jerusalem (from Chartres Cathedral)
©C. E. Visminas

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Worship Coordinator/Tuscaloosa: Dr. Lee Rahe
Candidates: Andy Mullins (Atlanta), Greg Bullard (Memphis)
In Formation: Richard Barham, John Foust, Dr. Lee Rahe

+ + + + +

Palm Sunday Song Service
March 31, 1996

SINGSPIRATION Mark Cobb

CALL TO WORSHIP Eddie Merrell

ONE: The winds of God blow strong and compelling through the stagnant atmosphere of the world's neglect.

MANY: We feel the insistent warmth of God's presence and seek to awaken from our lethargy.

ONE: God invites us to join the parade of the faithful, to demonstrate for justice, truth, and righteousness.

MANY: We are drawn to the pageantry of Palm Sunday and to the One who comes in life-changing peace.

ONE: Whatever our state of mind or condition of life, we are welcomed to the time of self-searching and worship.

MANY: Blessed is the One who comes in God's name. Peace in heaven and glory in the highest. Amen.

*** OPENING HYMN**
O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing 349

***OPENING PRAYER** Rev. Ragona

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Dennis Luft

***HYMN OF CELEBRATION**
I Will Serve Thee (sung twice) 397

EVENING OFFERING

THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
O praise God, Alleluia.
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Praise Maker, Christ and Holy Ghost.
O praise God, O praise God.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

SERVICE IN SONG AND PRAISE
And God Cried Kathy Martin/Mark Moore

READING
The Ragman Peg Schoettlin

SONG
Watch the Lamb Randall

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURE
Matthew 27: 11-54 Cal McCluskey

SONG
You Didn't Have To Do It Mark Moore

READING
The Dream of the Rood John Foust

SONG
Embrace the Cross Dennis Luft

PRAYER AND MEDITATION Mark Brown

CHRIST'S PRAYER
Creator, which art in heaven... (Sung) 440

INVITATION TO COMMUNION
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament

Communion is served both at the seats and at the altar; you may choose to be served at either place.
Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice. Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed. Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you. Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

COMMUNION MUSIC
Let There Be Peace on Earth Tim Liptak
Jesus, I Come 401

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SONG
Giving My Best Greg Adams

***CLOSING HYMN**
I Am Thine, O Lord 455

***OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE**

***BENEDICTION**

ONE: When you leave this gathering, sing hosannas. Carry their glad cry into this new week.

MANY: However popular or unpopular the cause, we wish t to follow Jesus Christ.

ONE: God overlooks the past and sends us into the world as representatives of the good news.

MANY: God in Christ is bringing wholeness into our lives and giving us opportunities to minister to others.

ONE: We have been commissioned and empowered to make a difference in the quality of life around us.

MANY: Hosanna! Blessed are all who go forth to serve. Glory to God in the highest.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

***Please stand.**

WELCOME VISITORS! Your presence here this evening is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making Covenant MCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

+ + + + +

Today we will receive a second offering for the Community Assistance Fund, which helps people in need to pay urgent bills. Thus far this year we have given $210.00 out of the Community Assistance Fund, and this will be the first offering of the year to replenish the fund.

WELCOME VISITORS

Your presence here this morning is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY		
	Inquirer's Class: Polity/Government	9:30 a.m.
	Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
	Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.
MONDAY	Instrumentalists practice	6:30 p.m.
TUESDAY		
	Choir Praise	6:30 p.m.
WEDNESDAY:	**Images of God**	7:00 p.m.
THURSDAY		
	Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today we will receive a second offering for the Community Assistance Fund, which helps people in need to pay urgent bills. Thus far this year we have given $210.00 out of the Community Assistance Fund, and this will be the first offering of the year to replenish the fund.

Tuesday, April 2, 8 p.m. Council on Ministries. Begin Gay Pride Planning.

Wednesday, April 3, 7:00 p.m. Lenten contemplative prayer study, "The Many Faces of God." This week: God, the Midwife enables us.

Maundy Thursday, April 4, 6:30 p.m. : Seder (Passover celebration) with full roast lamb dinner, $5.00, tickets are on sale in lobby before and after church, (limit 100, please get tickets now, so we can buy the food). See Missy Ragona.

Good Friday, April 5, Tenebrae Service, Reenactment of the events leading up to the cruicifixion, the crucifixion and burial according to Matthew.

Saturday, April 6, Workday at the Church, beginning at 9:30. Cleanup for Easter.

Easter Dawn, April 7, 6:00 a.m. Service at Eastlake Park at the Pavilion on the lake, followed by breakfast at the church. Everyone is welcome.

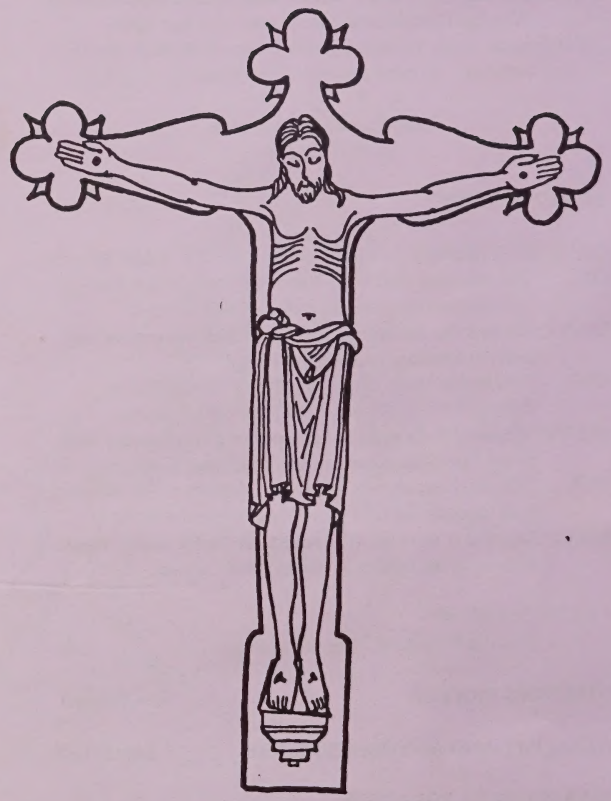
Morning Service, April 7, 11 a.m. with special Easter music by the choir.

Easter night, April 7, 7 p.m. Easter cantata, "The Day He Wore My Crown." Bring friends, this is special. The choir is wonderful!!

<u>District Conference</u>, May 17, 18, and 19 in Nashville. Registration forms are in the lobby; please see Shirley Lambert or Wes Fortner, our delegates, for more information.

<u>For Your Information</u>

Members	**128**	**Agape House**	**$1000**
Attendance	**147**	**Year to Date**	**$345**
Budget	**$8,316**		
MTD	**$6,905**		
Last Sunday	**$1,564**	**Given from CAF**	**$210**



A Medieval German Crucifix
©C. E. Visminas

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church
(205)599-3363 5117 First Avenue, North P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 35210

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor Mark Cobb, Interim Choir Director
Worship Coordinator/Tuscaloosa: Dr. Lee Rahe
In Clergy Formation: Andy Mullins (Atlanta), Greg Bullard (Memphis)
Richard Barham, John Foust, Dr. Lee Rahe

Evening Worship
January 14, 1996
7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP — Denise

ONE: Rejoice, for God has sent the Messiah to bind up the brokenhearted,
MANY: To proclaim liberty to the captives
ONE: To grant those who mourn a garland instead of ashes,
MANY: A mantle of praise, instead of a faint spirit.
ALL: Arise, shine, for our light has come.

++THE OPENING HYMN
Teach Us What We Yet May Be — 9

++THE OPENING PRAYER — Rev. Ragona

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS — Steve Parker

HYMN OF CELEBRATION
Leaning on the Everlasting Arms — 87

EVENING OFFERING — Mark Moore
Offertory

++THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
O praise God, Alleluia.
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Praise Maker, Christ and Holy Ghost.
O praise God, O praise God.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURE
Isaiah 44: 8-9, 13-18
Galatians 6:6-8
Matthew 3: 13-17

SPECIAL MUSIC

THE SERMON
The Coming of the Dove — John Foust

PRAYER AND MEDITATION — Rev. Marge Ragona

CHRIST'S PRAYER: "Our Creator, who art in heaven..."

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Communion is served both at the seats and at the altar; you may choose to be served at either place.
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Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

COMMUNION MUSIC
Savior, Thy Dying Love — 279

++CLOSING HYMN
There Is Sunshine In My Soul Today — 630

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION AND THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

++ Please stand.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Inquirers' Class - **Christ the Cornerstone**	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanks to everyone who helped with the potluck dinner and congregational meeting. Officers were elected and will be announced this evening.

The closing on the building will be January 19th.

Wednesday, January 17th, "Healing from Dysfunctional Families." Topic: Learning to Talk to God. Anyone who has experienced trauma within a family is welcome. Come and continue the healing.

Tuesday, January 16, 8:00 p.m. Deacon Training, "Grieving Gay -- coming out and the grief process."

Monday , January 15, 7:00 p.m., Church History Course; topic "The Cappadocians and Augustine."

ANNIVERSARY PLANS: Friday, February 16, 7:00 p.m. Carolyn Marshall in concert. Saturday, February 17, 2-4 "High Tea with Troy" and booksigning. Anniversary T-shirts will also be on sale. Saturday, February 17, 7:00 p.m. dinner at the Redmont ($20.00), the Gospel Girls, and Rev. Elder Troy Perry speaking. Sunday, February 18, 8:30 a.m. breakfast in Familyship Hall ($5.00). 11:00 a.m. Dedication of the Church, with Rev. Elder Troy Perry preaching. 3:00 p.m. Organ Concert with John Marberry playing music of African-American composers to help celebrate Black History Month.

Kathy Martin would like to meet with every one in the congregation who plays a musical instrument; percussion, horns, flutes, etc. are needed. Please see Kathy in the back of the church after service.

Be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind.

Romans 12:2

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COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

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Worship Coordinator/Tuscaloosa: Dr. Lee Rahe
In Clergy Formation: Andy Mullins (Atlanta), Greg Bullard (Memphis)
Richard Barham, John Foust, Dr. Lee Rahe

Evening Worship
March 3, 1996
7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP Eddie Merrell

ONE: It is an awesome thing to stand in the presence of God, to call God's holy name.

MANY: As far as the heavens are above the earth, God's ways are above our ways.

ONE: But we come with confidence, because in Christ we are called to be God's people.

MANY: Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before God our Maker.

++THE OPENING HYMN
For the Beauty of the Earth 1

++THE OPENING PRAYER Rev. Ragona

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Dennis Luft

HYMN OF CELEBRATION
The Solid Rock 92

EVENING OFFERING William
Offertory

++THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
O praise God, Alleluia.
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Praise Maker, Christ and Holy Ghost.
O praise God, O praise God.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURE
Mark 8: 22-25

SPECIAL MUSIC Mark Cobb

THE SERMON Rev. Ragona
The Parable of the Three Little Pigs

PRAYER AND MEDITATION Richard Barham

CHRIST'S PRAYER: "Our Creator, who art in heaven..."

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

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COMMUNION MUSIC
Open My Eyes 486

++CLOSING HYMN
The Wonder of It All 13

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION AND THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

++ Please stand.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Inquirer's Class - Polity/Government	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

We want to thank everyone who helped to paint the upstairs hall and Samaritan classroom yesterday. Also thanks to those who worked in the sanctuary to spruce things up.

Monday, March 4, 7:00 p.m. Church History Course, Topic "Charlemagne and his effect on the church."

Tuesday, March 5: 8 p.m. Council on Ministries. Easter planning.

Wednesday, March 6, 7:00 p.m. Lenten prayer study, "Encounters With Jesus."

Friday, March 8, 7-10 Common Ground Coffee House, (up to age 25, please).

Saturday, March 9, 10-6, Old Testament Course, "The Prophets."

Next AIDS Care Team meeting, March 31, 9:30 a.m.

If you have not completed your church survey, please do so and give it to Wes Fortner or Shirley Lambert, lay delegates.

For Your Information

Members	**125**	**Agape House**	**$1000**
Attendance	**169**	**Year to Date**	**$339**
Last Sunday	**$1,157**		
February	**$7,234**	**Given from CAF**	**$100**
Budget	**$8,316**		

Come unto me,
all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Matthew 11:28-30 KJV

MCC
Covenant Metropolitan Community Church
(205)326-8529 3001 Fourth Avenue, South P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 35210

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

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Richard Barham, John Foust, Dr. Lee Rahe

Evening Worship
March 17, 1996
7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP — Cal

ONE: Through Christ, the dividing walls have been broken down.
MANY: We have been handed the hope that we can live our lives in new ways.
ONE: Such a gift surely sets us free!
MANY: We are free! And we will rise as God's freely chosen ones, shining forth in the world with love.

++THE OPENING HYMN
Since Jesus Came Into My Heart — 639

++THE OPENING PRAYER — Rev. Ragona

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS — Mark Moore

HYMN OF CELEBRATION
Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine — 67

EVENING OFFERING — Shannon O'Hara
Offertory

++THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
O praise God, Alleluia.
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Praise Maker, Christ and Holy Ghost.
O praise God, O praise God.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURE
Matthew 14:22-33

SPECIAL MUSIC — Randall

THE SERMON — Eddie Merrell
Can You Walk the Walk?

PRAYER AND MEDITATION — Rev Marge Ragona

CHRIST'S PRAYER: "Our Creator, who art in heaven..."

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

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Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

COMMUNION MUSIC
I Know Who Holds Tomorrow — 96

++CLOSING HYMN
Love Lifted Me — Printed

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION AND THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

++ Please stand.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Inquirer's Class - Outing the Bible	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.
MONDAY Instrumentalist practice	6:30 p.m.
TUESDAY	
Choir Praise	6:30 p.m.
THURSDAY	
Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Monday, March 18, 7:00 p.m. Church History Class. Class meets at the pastor's home for *The Name of the Rose* movie. This is part of our class on medieval monasticism.

Tuesday, March 19, 8 p.m. Deacon Training. Talking about safe sex to others.

Wednesday, March 20 , 7:00 p.m. Lenten contemplative prayer study, "The Many Faces of God." This week: God Nurtures Us and Invites Us into Family.
Friday, March 22, 7-10 Common Ground Coffeehouse.

EASTER PLANNING: Maundy Thursday, April 4, 6:30 p.m. : Seder (Passover celebration) with full roast lamb dinner, $5.00, tickets are on sale in lobby before and after church, (limit 100, please get tickets early). See Missy Ragona.
Good Friday, April 5, Tenebrae Service, Reenactment of the events leading up to the cruicifixion, the crucifixion and burial according to Matthew.
Easter Dawn, April 7, 6:00 a.m. Service at Eastlake followed by breakfast at the church. Everyone is welcome.
Morning Service, April 7, 11 a.m. with special Easter music by the choir.
Easter night, April 7, 7 p.m. Easter cantata, "The Day He Wore My Crown." Bring friends, this is special.

For Your Information

Members	**127**	**Agape House**	**$1000**
Attendance	**168**	**Year to Date**	**$345**
Budget	**$8,316**		
MTD	**$3,593**		
Last Sunday	**$1,642**	**Given from CAF**	**$210**

Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness.

1 Timothy 6:11*b* NIV

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C0VENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

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Good Friday Tenebrae Service
April 5, 1996
7:00 p.m.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
PRELUDE

++CALL TO WORSHIP
ONE: O God, in you our ancestors trusted;
MANY: They trusted and you delivered them.
ONE: To you comes praise in the congregation.
MANY: We pay our vows before those who worship our God.

OPENING PRAYER Rev. Ragona

++ OPENING HYMN
There is a Green Hill **278**

OUR GIFTS TO GOD
Our Prayer Offerings Randall
Together, let us pray for:
the people of this congregation
those who suffer and those in trouble
the concerns of our community
the world, its peoples, and its leaders
the church universal -- its leaders, its members, and its mission
Our Tithes and Gifts

++THE DOXOLOGY
Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
O praise God, Alleluia.
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Praise Maker, Christ and Holy Ghost.
O praise God, O praise God.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

TENEBRAE SERVICE Matthew 26: 14-27:66

Narrator: Then one of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said:

Judas: "What will you give me if I deliver him to you?"

Narrator: And they paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment, he sought an opportunity to betray him.
Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying:

Speakers: "Where will you have us prepare for you to eat the passover?"

Narrator: He said,

Jesus: "Go into the city to a certain one, and say to him, "The Teacher says, my time is at hand; I will keep the passover at your house with my disciples.

Narrator: And the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the passover. When it was evening, he sat at table with the twelve disciples; and as they were eating, he said,

Jesus: "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me."

Narrator: And they were very sorrowful, and began to say to him one after another,

Speakers: "Is it I, Lord?"

Narrator: He answered,

Jesus: "The one who has dipped his hand in the dish with me will betray me. The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to the one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born."

Narrator: Judas, who betrayed him, said,

Judas: "Is it I, master?"

Narrator: He said to him,

Jesus: "You have said so."

Narrator: Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said,

Jesus: "Take, eat, this is my body."

Narrator: And he took the cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying,

Jesus: "Drink of it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you I shall not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my parent's realm.

Narrator: And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them,

Jesus: "You will all fall away because of me this night; for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered." But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee."

Narrator: Peter declared to him,

Peter: "Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away."

~~Narrator: Jesus said to him,~~

Peter: "Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you."

Narrator: And so said all the disciples. And Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples,

Jesus: "Sit here, while I go yonder and pray."

Narrator: And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them,

Jesus: "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me."

Narrator: And going a little farther, he fell on his face and prayed,

Jesus: "Abba, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as thou wilt."

Narrator: And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter,

Jesus: "So, could you not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

Narrator: Again, for the second time, he went away and prayed,

Jesus: "Abba, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, thy will be done."

Narrator: And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. Then he came to the disciples and said to them,

Jesus: "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand."

Narrator: While he was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a great crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign saying,

Judas: "The one I shall kiss is the man; seize him."

Narrator: And he came up to Jesus at once and said,

Judas: "Hail, Master."

Narrator: And he kissed him. Jesus said to him,

Jesus: "Friend, why are you here?"

Narrator: Then they came up and laid hands on Jesus and seized him. And behold, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword, and struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his ear. Then Jesus said to him,

Jesus: "Put your sword back into its place; for all who take up the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my parent, and God will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then should the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must be so?"

Narrator: At that hour Jesus said to the crowds,

Jesus: "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture me? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me. But all this has taken place that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled.

Narrator: Then all the disciples forsook him and fled.

(Thir first candle is extinguished.)

Then those who had seized Jesus led him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders had gathered. But Peter followed him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest, and going inside he sat with the guards to see the end. Now the chief priests and the whole council sought false testimony against Jesus that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said,

Speaker 1: "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to rebuild it in three days.'"

Narrator: And the high priest stood up and said,

Speaker 2: "Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?"

Narrator: But Jesus was silent. And the high priest said to him,

Speaker 2: "I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God."

Narrator: And Jesus said to him,

Jesus: "You have said so. But I tell you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven."

Narrator: Then the high priest tore his robes, and said,

Speaker 2: "He has uttered blasphemy. Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your judgment?

Narrator: They answered,

Crowd: "He deserves death."

Narrator: Then they spat in his face, and struck him; and some slapped him, saying,

Crowd: "Prophesy to us, you Christ! Who is it that struck you?"

Narrator: Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. And a maid came up to him, and said,

Woman: "You also were with the Galilean."

Narrator: But he denied it before them all, saying,

Peter: "I do not know what you mean."

Narrator: And when he went out to the porch, another maid saw him, and she said to the bystanders,

Woman: "This man was with Jesus of Nazareth."

Narrator: And again he denied it with an oath,

Peter: "I do not know the man."

Narrator: After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter,

Crowd: "Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you."

Narrator: Then he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear,

Peter: "I do not know the man."

Narrator: And immediately the cock crowed. And Peter remembered the saying of Jesus, "Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.

(The second candle is extinguished.)

Narrator: When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death; and they bound him and led him away and delivered him to Pilate, the governor.

When Judas, his betrayer, saw that he was condemned, he repented and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders, saying,

Judas: "I have sinned in betraying innocent blood."

Narrator: They said,

Speakers: "What is that to us. See to it yourself."

Narrator: And throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple, he departed; and he went and hanged himself. But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said,

Speakers: "It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are blood money."

Narrator: So they took counsel and brought with them the potter's field, to bury strangers in. Therefore, that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken by the prophet Jeremiah, "And they took thirty pieces of silver, the price of him on whom a price had been set by some of the sons of Israel, and they gave them for the potter's field, as God directed me."

(The third candle is extinguished.)

Now Jesus stood before the governor and the governor asked him:

Speaker 1: "Are you the King of the Jews?"

Narrator: And Jesus said to him:

Jesus: "You have said so."

Narrator: But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he made no answer. Then Pilate said to him:

Pilate: "Do you not hear how many things they testify against you?"

Narrator: But he gave no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor wondered greatly. Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the crowd one prisoner whom they wanted. And they had then a notorious prisoner, called Barabbas. So when they had gathered, Pilate said to them:

Pilate: "Whom do you want me to release for you, Barabbas or Jesus who is called Christ?"

Narrator: For he knew that it was out of envy that they had delivered him up. Besides, while he was sitting on the judgement seat, his wife sent word to him:

Woman: "Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for I have suffered much over him today in a dream."

Narrator: Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the people to ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus. The governor again said to them:

Pilate: "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?"

Narrator: And they said:

Crowd: "Barabbas."

Narrator: Pilate said to them:

Pilate: What shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?"

Narrator: They all said,

Crowd: "Crucify him!"

Narrator: And he said,

Pilate: "Why, what evil has he done?"

Narrator: But they shouted all the more,

Crowd: "Crucify him!"

Narrator: So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying:

Pilate: I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves.

Narrator: Then he released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered him to be crucified.

(Fourth candle is extinguished.)

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the Praetorium, and they gathered the whole battalion before him. and they stripped him and put a scarlet robe upon him, and plaiting a crown of thorns they put it on his head, and put a reed in his right hand, and kneeling before him they mocked him, saying:

Crowd: "Hail, King of the Jews!"

Narrator: And they spat upon him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him, and led him away to crucify him.

(The fifth candle is extinguished.)

As they went out, they came upon a man of Cyrene, Simon by name: this man they compelled to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull), they offered him wine to drink, mingled with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots, then they sat down and kept watch over him there. And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus the King of the Jews." Then two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left. And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying,

Crowd: "You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross!"

Narrator: So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elcers, mocked him, saying:

Speakers: "He saved others, he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God, let God deliver him now, if God desires him, for he said, 'I am the Son of God.'"

Narrator: And the robbers who were crucified with him also rviled him in the same way.

(Sixth candle is extinguished.)

Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour, Jesus cried with a loud voice:

Jesus: *"Eli, Eli, lama sabach-tha'ni?"*

Narrator: that is

Jesus: "My God, my God, why has thou forsaken me?"

Narrator: And some of the bystanders hearing it said,

Speakers: "This man is calling Elijah."

Narrator: And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave it to him to drink. But others said:

Speakers: "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him."

Narrator: And Jesus cried again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit.
(Loud sound.)
And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom; and the earth shook and the rocks were split; the tombs were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, and coming out of the tombs, after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many. When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earth-quake and what took place, they were filled with awe, and said:

Centurion: "Truly this was the Son of God!"

Narrator: There were also many women there, looking from afar, who had followed Jesus, ministering to him; among whom were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. And Joseph took the body, and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud, and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock; and he rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and departed. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the sepulchre.

Next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said,

Speaker: "Sir, we remember how that imposter said, while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise again.' Therefore order the sepulchre to be made secure until the third day, lest his disciples go and steal him away and tell the people, 'He has risen from the dead and the last fraud will be worse than the first.

Narrator: Pilate said to them,

Pilate: "You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can."

Narrator: So they went and made the sepulchre secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard.
(The seventh candle is extinguished.)

PRAYER FOR GOOD FRIDAY

O God, your love has remained so strong that you gave up your only begotten to the death of the cross for us. By his blood our sins have been washed away, and we are able to come before you and sing your praises.

Lord Jesus, we know how you suffered on the cross and yet you offered your care for others. You asked that those who had crucified you might be forgiven. You forgave the penitent thief and cared for your mother. Because you gave up your life, we have life.

As you cared for others, so empower us by your Holy Spirit that we may care for one another. Give us a mind to show our gratitude for your sacrifice by sacrificing ourselves in service to your people. Enable us to offer courage to those who fear, strength to those who are weak, and joy to those who mourn.

Keep us steadfast in our devotion to you, as we give thanks for our salvation and anticipate that great day when you will receive our spirits. Hear us, we pray, for your holy Name's sake. Amen.

++CLOSING HYMN

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross 258

++BENEDICTION: Let us go from this place in silence, knowing that God goes with us.

mcc
Covenant Metropolitan Community Church
(205)599-3363 5117 First Avenue, North P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 35210

C0VENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Associate Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

+ + + + + +

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
June 26, 1994
11:00 a.m.

++CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: In this land of freedom and beauty, let us give thanks to God.

MANY: Let us praise the One who created the blue lakes and grassy prairies, the vast desert lands, and the breathtaking mountains of this land.

ONE: Let us unite in worship of the Creator who formed all lands and all people,

MANY: And who declared, without hesitation, "It is good."

ALL: Come, let us worship God.

++OPENING HYMN
"This Is My Land" Printed

++OPENING PRAYER Rev. Ragona

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Mark M.

OUR GIFTS TO GOD
Our Prayer Offerings
Together, let us pray for:
the people of this congregation
those who suffer and those in trouble
the concerns of our community
the world, its peoples, and its leaders
the church universal -- its leaders, its members and its mission...

Our Tithes and Gifts
Offertory

++THE DOXOLOGY

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT Rick

CHILDREN'S CHURCH (Second Floor-Familyship Hall)

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES
Lamentations 3: 22-33
Mark 5: 21-43

ANTHEM The Choir
"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

THE SERMON Rev. Marge Ragona
"Not by Worth, but by Faith"

THE COLLECT CALL TO CONFESSION
By grace, we have been called to match our lives to our profession of love for you. But we become hard and fail to live generous lives for you. If you, O God, should mark our iniquities, who, O God, could stand? But there is forgiveness with you. In your mercy, restore us as your own that your will for us may be fulfilled. Hear now our silent confessions...

CHRIST'S PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON
In Christ, we are given new life. The old is gone away. The new is before us. We are freed to live fully in the present. That is the good news that sets us free to love!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Steve P.

Celebrant: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to God.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution

THE MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH
Christ has died.
Christ is risen
Christ will come again.

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

++THE CLOSING HYMN
"Great Is Thy Faithfulness" 98

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++CHORAL RESPONSE

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+ + + + +

WELCOME VISITORS
Your presence here this morning is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Children's Choir	5:45 p.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Youth Meeting	5:30 p.m
Choir Practice	6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Special Study "Healing Abuse" (Separate groups for men and women)	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today we are rounding up Prayer Bears. Please keep your bear until all the bears have been blessed in the worship service.

MONDAY, May 16. 23, 7:00 p.m.

Inquirer's Classes. These classes are required if you want to join the church, but don't feel you must join if you attend; they are open to everyone!

SUNDAY, May 22 - I M P O R T A N T

Congregational Meeting about potential move to the Birmingham Wedding Chapel. Please be present, your vote counts in the future of your church.

SATURDAY, JUNE 4

Homosexuality and the Bible Workshop	1:00 p.m.
Picnic and Cookout	5:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, June 5, 1 p.m.

Pride March. Parade starts from Brother Bryan Park. Stonewall 25/Pride Festival at Caldwell Park follows.

The Ascension (from 20th century China)

mcc

Covenant Metropolitan Community Churcl

(205)326-8529 · 3001 Fourth Avenue, South P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 3521

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Cliff Morrison, Pastor
Rev. Marge Ragona, Associate Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

+ + + + + +

Ascension Sunday
May 15, 1994
11:00 a.m.

CALL TO WORSHIP Mark B.

ONE: Sing praises to God, sing praises!

MANY: Sing praises to the One who reigns, sing praises!

ONE: For God reigns over all the nations;

MANY: Sing praises with a psalm! Alleluia.

OPENING HYMN
"All Hail the Power of Jesus Name" 325

++OPENING PRAYER

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Mark M.

BLESSING OF THE PRAYER BEARS

SPECIAL MUSIC Dennis

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Our Prayer Offerings
Together, let us pray for:
the people of this congregation
those who suffer and those in trouble
the concerns of our community
the world, its peoples, and its leaders
the church universal -- its leaders, its members and its mission...

Our Tithes and Gifts
Offertory

++THE DOXOLOGY

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT Peg

CHILDREN'S CHURCH (in the Familyship Hall)

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES
Acts 1: 6-11
Ephesians 1: 15-23
Luke 24: 44-52

ANTHEM The Choir

THE SERMON Rev. Marge Ragona
Why Are You Looking At the Sky?

THE COLLECT CALL TO CONFESSION

God, we have heard the promise that we would not be left alone, yet we so often act as if we believe that we must depend only upon ourselves. Time and again we seek to follow our own ways and fail to hear your sustaining word. By the gift of your Holy Spirit open to us afresh the words of Scripture that we might be strengthened in our faith and given a mind to spread the good news of Jesus' place in glory with all the world. Let us not stand looking into heaven for Jesus' return, but rather to work for the fulfillment of his promises here on earth, until he comes again. Hear now our silent confessions...

CHRIST'S PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON

It is with great joy that God grants us new life and forgiveness of our sins. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven by grace. With great joy, we are made alive. Thanks be to God. Amen..

The Great Thanksgiving **John Hankins**

Celebrant: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to God.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution

THE MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH
Christ has died.
Christ is risen
Christ will come again.

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.

++THE CLOSING HYMN
Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun 238

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++CHORAL RESPONSE

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+ + + + +

WELCOME VISITORS

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Children's Choir	5:45 p.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Practice	6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Special Study "Healing Abuse"	7:00 p.m.
(Separate groups for men and women)	

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

MONDAY, May 9. 16. 23, 7:00 p.m.

Inquirer's Classes. These classes are required if you want to join the church, but don't feel you must join if you attend; they are open to everyone!

Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, May 11, 7:00 p.m.

"Healing Abuse" workshop starts and will continue for the next six Wednesdays. Rev. Marge Ragona will lead the women and we want to thank Deacon Bill Salvaggio of First MCC Atlanta, who will be coming over to lead the men.

SUNDAY, May 15, 7:00 p.m.

Prayer Bear Roundup.

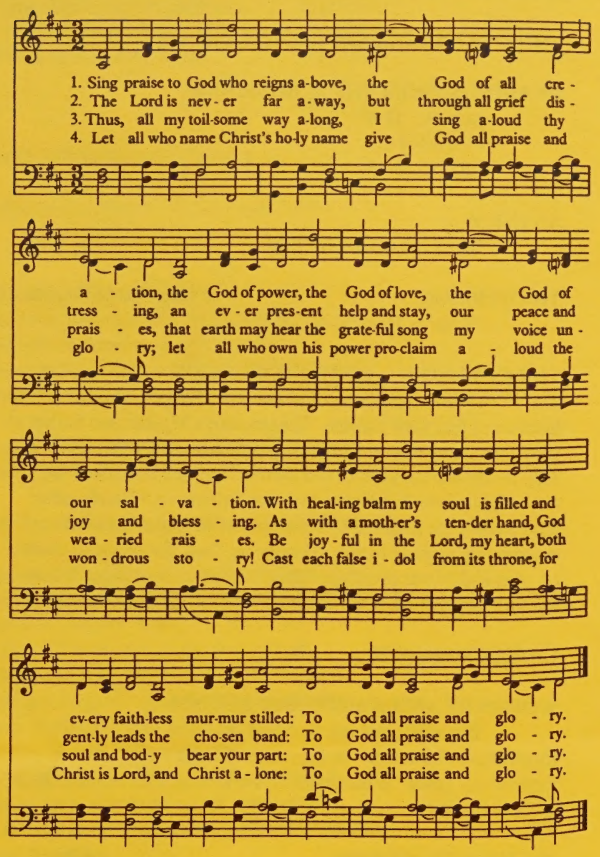
SATURDAY, JUNE 4

Homosexuality and the Bible Workshop	1:00 p.m.
Picnic and Cookout	5:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, June 5, 1 p.m.

Pride March. Parade starts from Brother Bryan Park.
Stonewall 25/Pride Festival at Caldwell Park follows.

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above



WORDS: Johann J. Schütz, 1673; trans. by Frances E. Cox, 1864 (Dt. 32:3)
MUSIC: Bohemian Brethren's *Kirchengesänge*, 1566; harm. by Maurice F. Bell, 1906

MIT FREUDEN ZART
87.87.887

Jesus Loving (after a print by the 20th century artist Frite Eichenberg)

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Cliff Morrison, Pastor
Rev. Marge Ragona, Associate Pastor
John Hankins, Student Clergy

+ + + + + +

Sixth Sunday in Easter
May 8, 1994
11:00 a.m.

CALL TO WORSHIP Mark

ONE: Sing to God a new song.

MANY: God has done marvelous things.

ONE: Let all creation praise God.

MANY: And break forth into joyous singing.

OPENING HYMN
"Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above" Insert

++OPENING PRAYER

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPECIAL MUSIC
"Hello, Mama" Randall

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Our Prayer Offerings
Together, let us pray for:
the people of this congregation
those who suffer and those in trouble
the concerns of our community
the world, its peoples, and its leaders
the church universal -- its leaders, its members and its mission...

Our Tithes and Gifts
Offertory

++THE DOXOLOGY

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT Peg

CHILDREN'S CHURCH (in the Familyship Hall)

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES
Acts 10: 44-48
I John 5: 1-5
John 15: 9-17

ANTHEM
"Our God is Like An Eagle" The Choir

THE SERMON Rev. Marge Ragona
"What is This Thing Called Love?"

THE COLLECT CALL TO CONFESSION

O God, we come to you as little children who both honor and fear their parents. You are like a Mother and Father to us, so we come to you with both trust and anxiety. It has been easy to choose the path of our own indulgence instead of the way of sacrifice. We like to feel comfortable and secure rather than risking the disfavor of others or the consequences of standing up against wrong. Forgive us, God, for being so unsure of you and of our own best selves. Grant us courage to follow the truth you reveal to us. Hear now our silent confessions...

CHRIST'S PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON

It is with great joy that God grants us new life and forgiveness of our sins. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven by grace. With great joy, we are made alive. Thanks be to God. Amen..

The Great Thanksgiving Allan

Celebrant: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to God.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution

THE MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH
Christ has died.
Christ is risen
Christ will come again.

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT
THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.

++THE CLOSING HYMN
"Pass It On" 641

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++CHORAL RESPONSE

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

+ + + + +

WELCOME VISITORS

Your presence here this morning is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

Today is Mother's Day, and we wish a special day of love to all here who are mothers, and to all our mothers wherever they may be. Special greetings to our mothers who are present with us.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	9:30 a.m.
Inquirer's Classes (1. Beliefs of MCC)	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

12 Steps in 18 Weeks -Admitting Powerlessness	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Building Fund now stands at $50, 751. Thank you! Those who made pledges should be giving as soon as possible. Make your offering in the envelopes provided and mark it "building fund."

Monday, October 9, 6:00 p.m. Personnel Committee.
7:00 p.m. Board Meeting.

Tuesday, October 10, 6 p.m. Newsletter folding and mailing.

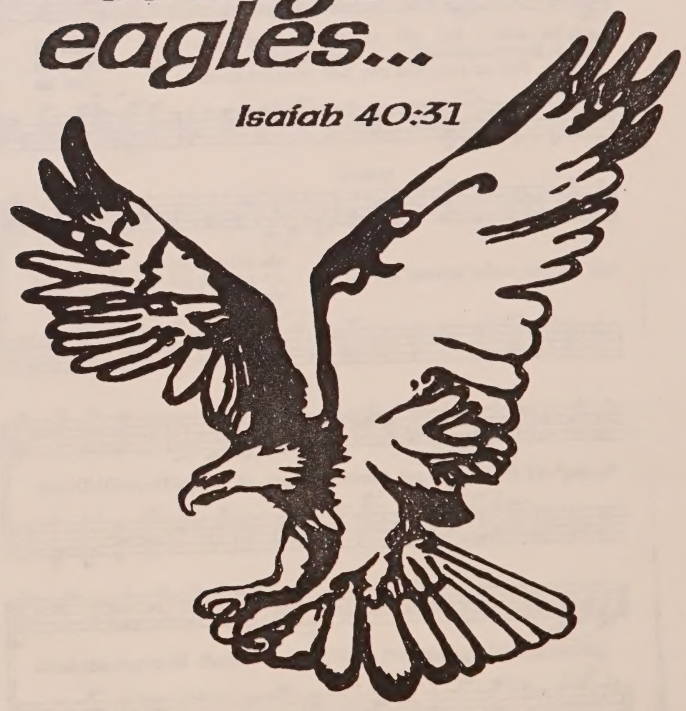
Wednesday, October 11, National Coming Out Day, all day.
7:00 p.m. Would you like the benefits of a 12 step program, but don't feel you want to join AA or NA? This is an introduction to the 12 Step Program in three six week sessions. ANY addiction is welcome whether it is alcohol, drugs, sex, love, food, persons or if you just need a deeper spiritual walk. This is NOT an AA or NA program.

Thursday, October 12, 6:30 p.m. The pastor is filming a debate on gay marriage opposite Briarwood Presbyterian Church. Everyone is invited to Channel 42, off Valley Avenue in Homewood, follow Baby Doe's sign.

Sunday, October 15, Fellowship Sunday with dinner at the church after morning service, $5.00 charge goes to Building Fund. Red beans and rice, sausage, salad and desert.
4:00 p.m. AIDS Healing and Memorial Service at Cathedral Church of the Advent.
7:00 p.m. A service in celebration of Coming Out!!

They shall mount up with wings as eagles...

Isaiah 40:31



MCC

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

The Old Gospel Ship

Arr. Alphus LeFevre

1. I have good news to bring and that is why I sing, All my joys with you
2. O I can scarcely wait I know I'll not be late, For I'll spend my time
3. If you're ashamed of me you have no cause to be, For with Christ I am

I'll share; I'm going to take a trip in the Old Gos - pel ship
in pray'r; And when my ship comes in I will leave this world of sin
an heir; If too much fault you find you will sure be left be-hind

CHORUS

And go sail - ing thru the air.
And go sail - ing thru the air. O I'm "gon-na" take a trip, in the
While I go sail - ing thru the air.

good Old Gos-pel Ship, I'm go - ing far beyond the sky; O I'm "gon-na"

shout and sing un - til the heavens ring, When I'm bidding this world good-by.

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
Susan Walker, Director of Music
John Hankins, Student Clergy
Andy Mullins, Student Clergy
Greg Bullard, Student Clergy (Huntsville)

+ + + + + +

Evening Worship
January 29, 1995
7:00 p.m.

++CALL TO WORSHIP` Shirley

ALL: **Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth; sing the glory of God's name; give to God glorious praise.**

Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! Because of your great power, your enemies cringe before you.

All the earth worships you; they sing praises to you, sing praises to your name."

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

I Saw The Light....An Evening of Southern Gospel Music

Singers: *Rick A., Mark C., Dottie C., Randall F., Allan F., " B.J."H., Dennis L., Eddie M., Rob R.., Debbie T., Tracy W., Lee W.*
Pianists: *Lynn B., Barry N., Debbie T., Cliff T.*

I Saw The Light	*Tracy, Randall, B.J., Lee*
I Want To Be In Glory	*Dottie*
Ten Thousand Years	*Rick*
Going Home	*Eddie*
The Old Rugged Cross	*Quartet*

OFFERING
DOXOLOGY

SCRIPTURE: PSALMS 100 Kay

Had It Not Been	*Randall*

SILENT PRAYER AND CONFESSION Cal
CHRIST PRAYER

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION Cliff T.
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

When We All Get To Heaven	*Quartet*
Hymn Medley	*Debbie*
Sweet Beulah Land	*Mark*
The Old Gospel Ship	*Congregation... with Randall leading.*

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

+ + + + + + + + +

WELCOME VISITORS

We are happy that you have chosen to worship with us this evening. We hope you receive a blessing from the service and will consider making Covenant your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed (don't forget your Zip Code). Let us know how we may serve you. Again, Welcome!

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY	
Sunday School for children and adults	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.
TUESDAY	
Choir Praise	7:00 p.m.
THURSDAY	
Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

I Saw The Light

An Evening of Southern Gospel Music

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

(205) 599-3363 5117 First Avenue North P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 35210

COVENANT
METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
Susan Walker, Director of Music
Andy Mullins, and
Greg Bullard, Student Clergy
Lee Rahe, Tuscaloosa Worship Coordinator

▼ ▼ ▼

July 30, 1995
Evening Worship
7 p.m.

WELCOME VISITORS
Your presence here this evening is a real blessing for us! We hope you received a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. And again, welcome!

5th Sunday Unplugged

SINGSPIRATION

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

One	Praise God in holy places and the mighty vault of heaven;
Many	**Praise God for acts of power and immeasurable greatness.**
One	Praise God with fanfare on the trumpet, harp and lyre;
Many	**With tambourines and dancing, flute and strings;**
One	With the clash of triumphant cymbals, praise God;
All	**Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!**

† HYMN

† OPENING PRAYER

PRAISE IN WORD

OFFERING
Offertory

† THE DOXOLOGY
Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below
Oh praise God Hallelujah
Praise God above ye heavenly host
Praise Maker, Christ, and Holy Ghost
Oh praise God, Oh praise God
Hallelujah, Hallelujah,
Hallelujah

NEW TESTAMENT READING
Ephesians 5: 18-20

PRAISE IN SONG

PRAISE IN WORD

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

CHRIST'S PRAYER
"Our Creator, which art in heaven..."

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
The Prayer of Thanksgiving

HYMN

† OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE (Please join us in our familyship circle.)

† COMMISSION
Matthew 28: 18-20

† Please rise as you are able.
NOTE: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS

SUNDAY	
Sunday School for children and adults	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.
TUESDAY	
Choir Praise	6:30 p.m.
WEDNESDAY	
Study Series "Healing Distorted Images of God"	7:00 p.m.
THURSDAY	
Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

SPECIAL EVENTS

We have $2,241 in the fund for the Cliff Morrison Memorial Apartment at Agape House. When we reach $2,500, we can pay to have the apartment furnished and the tenant move in. We need $319 to complete this. Over the next five years, we need to raise $1,000 a year to keep up the apartment.

Our building fund now stands at $39,995. Please think about contributing to the building fund, so that we can purchase this building. Make your offering in the envelopes provided and mark it "building fund."

Monday, July 31, 7 p.m. Deacon and Staff meeting.

Tuesday, August 1, 8 p.m. Council on Ministries meeting. This is a planning group for social events, evangelism and fundraising. Everyone is invited to attend.

Wednesday, August 2, 7 p.m. an important study group will begin. "Healing Distorted Images of God" is a study that can change your view of God from an angry, judgemental God to a loving, caring God. Come study, learn and be renewed.

Saturday, August 5, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Inquirer's Classes. These classes are required for membership, but you do not have to become a member to attend the classes. Lunch will be provided.

Sunday, August 6, 1 p.m. the Holy Union of Dottie and Tish. The church family is invited to remain after morning worship and share this precious moment with these two loving women.

Please help set up for church and put back for the Wedding Chapel if you have a moment before or after the service.

Covenant Metropolitan Community Church
(205) 599-3363•5117 First Avenue North•P.O. Box 101473•Birmingham, Alabama 35210

PRAISE THE LORD

with

the clash of cymbals,

harp and lyre,

tambourines and dancing,

flute and strings,

and fanfare on trumpet

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

SUNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Quilting Bee - Names Project	2:00 p.m
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Choir Praise	7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Healing Distorted Images of Self	**7:00 p.m.**

THURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today, many of our congregation are in Montgomery for GLAD District Conference. Student Clergy John Hankins has been approved for licensing to the ministry by the GLAD District Review Committee.

Monday, May 8, 7:00 p.m. Board Meeting.

Wednesday study group, "Healing Distorted Images of Self." "Seeing Myself as valued."

Saturday, May 20, Installation of Rev. Marian McPherson as pastor of MCC Huntsville. Rev. Jeri Ann Harvey will officiate.
The Covenant family is invited to Huntsville for this occasion.

Watch it! Cathedral of Hope MCC (Dallas), our largest church with 1600 congregants is being broadcast Thursday evenings 11:00, Channel 4, Public Access Cable.

Please help set up for church and put back for the Wedding Chapel if you have a moment before or after the service.

Please! If you unlock a door when you go in, lock it when you come out!

Lord,
make me an
instrument of thy peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
Where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that
I may not so much seek
To be consoled, as to console,
To be understood, as to understand,
To be loved, as to love;
for
It is in giving, that we receive;
It is in pardoning, that we are pardoned;
It is in dying, that we awaken to eternal life.

St. Francis of Assisi

MCC
Covenant Metropolitan Community Church
(205)599-3363 5117 First Avenue, North P.O. Box 101473 Birmingham, Alabama 35210

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor Susan Walker, Director of Music

Pastoral Leader/Tuscaloosa: Rev.-Elect John Hankins

Student Clergy: Andy Mullins, Greg Bullard

Evening Worship

May 6, 1995

7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP Mark Brown

ONE: Today is a new day!

MANY: New life is rising among us.

ONE: Today we are challenged to live fully in God's love.

MANY: So we will greet one another in love and praise the God who uplifts each of us in grace.

ALL: Alleluia! Amen!

++THE OPENING HYMN

I'm So Glad I'm a Part of the Family of God *543*

++THE OPENING PRAYER Andy Mullins

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Mark Moore

HYMN OF CELEBRATION

Higher Ground *469*

EVENING OFFERING

Offertory

++THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
O praise God, Alleluia.
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Praise Maker, Christ and Holy Ghost.
O praise God, O praise God.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURE

Psalm 22: 22-31
Philipians 1: 3-11
Matthew 28: 16-20

SPECIAL MUSIC

SERMON

Praising God's Presence Andy Mullins

PRAYER AND MEDITATION Rev. Ragona

CHRIST'S PRAYER: "Our Creator, who art in heaven..."

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Communion is served both at the seats and at the altar; you may choose to be served at either place.
Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

++CLOSING HYMN

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing *318*

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION

++THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

++ Please stand.

WELCOME VISITORS! Your presence here this evening is a real blessing for us! We hope you also received a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. WELCOME!

COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
Susan Walker, Music Director
John Hankins, Student Clergy
Andy Mullins, Student Clergy
Greg Bullard, Student Clergy (Huntsville)

Tenebrae Service
Good Friday, April 14, 1995

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: O God, in you our parents trusted;
MANY: They trusted and you delivered them.
ONE: For you comes praise in the congregation;
MANY: We pay our vows before those who worship our God.

OPENING HYMN
There is a Green Hill **278**

OPENING PRAYER

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP WITH OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS
Offertory

SPECIAL MUSIC

SERVICE OF THE TENEBRAE **Luke 22:14 - 23:56**

N: And when the hour had come, he sat at table and the apostles with him. And he said to them:

Jesus: "I have earnestly desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer, for I tell you I shall not eat until it is fufilled in the kingdom of God.

N: And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he said:

Jesus: "Take this and divide it among yourselves, for I tell you that from now on I shall not drink of the fruit of vine until the kingdom of God comes.

N: And he took bread, and when he had given thanks he broke it and gave it to them, saying:

Jesus: "This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

N: And likewise the cup after supper, saying:

Jesus: This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. But behold the hand of the one who betrays me is with me at the table. For the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, but woe to that one by whom he is betrayed.

N: And they began to question one another, which of them it was that would do this. A dispute also arose among them, which of them was to be regarded as the greatest. And he said to them:

Jesus: The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and those in authority over them are called benefactors. But not so with you; rather let the greatest among you become as the youngest, and the leader as one who serves. For which is greater, one who sits at table, or one who serves? Is it not the one who sits at table? But I am among you as one who serves. You are those who have continued with me in my trials; and I assign to you, as my father assigned to me a kingdom; that you may eat or drink at my table in my kingdom, and sit on the thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel."

"Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail; and when you have turned again, strengthen the others."

N: And he said to him,

Simon: "Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death."

N: He said,

Jesus: "I tell you, Peter, the cock will not crow this day, until you three times deny that you know me."

N: And he said to them,

Jesus: "When I sent you out with no purse or bag or sandals, did you lack anything?

N: They said,

Spkrs: "Nothing."

N: He said to them,

Jesus: But now, let him who has a purse take it, and likewise a bag. And let him who has no sword sell his mantle and buy one. For I tell you that this scripture must be fulfilled in me, "And he was reckoned with transgressors," for what is written about me has its fulfilment."

N: And they said,

Spkrs: "Look, Lord, here are two swords."

N: And he said to them,

Jesus: "It is enough.

(The first candle is extinguished.)

N: And he came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed him, and when he came to the place, he said to them:

Jesus: "Pray that you may not enter into temptation."

N: And he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed.

Jesus: "God, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done."

N: And when he rose from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping for sorrow, and he said to them:

Jesus: "Why do you sleep? Rise and pray that you may not enter into temptation."

N: While he was still speaking, there came a crowd, and the man called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He drew near to Jesus to kiss him, but Jesus said to him:

Jesus: "Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?"

N: And when those who were about him saw what would follow, they said:

Spkrs: "Lord, shall we strike with the sword?"

N: And one of them struck the slave of the High Priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus said:

Jesus: "No more of this!"

N: And he touched his ear and healed him. Then Jesus said to the chief priests and officers of the temple and elders who had come out against him:

Jesus: "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs? When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness."

(The second candle is extinguished.)

N: Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house. Peter followed at a distance; and when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. Then a maid, seeing him as he sat in the light and gazing at him, said:

Woman: "This man also was with him."

N: But he denied it, saying:

Peter: "Woman, I do not know him."

N: And a little later some one else saw him and said,

S1: "You also are one of them."

N: But Peter said,

Peter: "Man, I do not know what you are saying."

N: And immediately, while he was speaking, the cock crowed. And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the crock crows today, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.

(The third candle is extinguished.)

Now the men who were holding Jesus mocked him and beat him; they also blindfolded him and asked him:

Spkers: "Prophecy! Who is it that struck you?"

N: And they spoke many other words against him, reviling him.

When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people gathered together, both chief priests and scribes; and they led him away to their council, and they said:

Spkrs: "If you are the Christ, tell us."

N: But he said to them,

Jesus: "If I tell you, you will not believe; and if I ask you, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man shall be seated a the right hand of the power of God."

N: And they all said,

Spkrs: "Are you the Son of God then?"

N: And he said to them,

Jesus: "You say that I am."

N: And they said,

Spkrs: "What further testimony do we need? We have heard it from his own lips."

N: Then the whole company arose, and brought him before Pilate. And they began to accuse him, saying:

Spkrs: "We found this man perverting our nation, and forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ a king."

N: And Pilate asked him,

Pilate: "Are you king of the Jews?"

N: And he answered him,

Jesus: "You have said so."

N: And Pilate said to the chief priests and the multitudes,

Pilate: "I find no crime in this man."

N: But they were urgent, saying,

Spkrs: "He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee even to this place."

N: When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. And when he learned that he belonged to Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him over to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had long desired to see him, because he had heard about him, and was hoping to see some sign done by him. So he questioned him at some length, but he made no answer. The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accursing him. And Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then arraying him in gorgeous apparel, he sent him back to Pilate. And Herod and Pilate became friends with each other that very day, for before this they had been at enmity with each other.

Pilate then called together the chief priests and the rulers of the people, and said to them:

Pilate: "You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and after examining him before you, behold, I did not find this man guilty of any of your charges against him; neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us. Behold, nothing deserving death has been done by him; I will therefore chastise him and release him."

N: But they all cried out together,

Cong: "Away with this man, and release to us Barabbas" --

N: a man who had been thrown into prison for an insurrection started in the city and for murder. Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus, but they shouted out:

Cong: Crucify. crucify him!"

N: A third time he said to them,

Pilate: "Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no crime deserving death; I will therefore chastise him and release him."

N: But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that Jesus should be crucified. And their voices prevailed. So Pilate gave sentence that their demand should be granted. He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, whom they asked for; but Jesus he delivered up to their will.

(The fourth candle is extinguished.)

And as they led him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus. And there followed him a great multitude of the people, and of women who bewailed and lamented him. But Jesus, turning to them, said:

Jesus: "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and your children. For behold, the days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never gave suck!' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us," and to the hills, "Cover us." For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

(The fifth candle is extinguished.)

N: Two others also, who were criminals were led away to be put to death with him. And when they came to the place which is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on the right and the other on the left. And Jesus said:

Jesus: "Abba, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

N: And they began to divide his garments. And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying:

Spkrs: "He saved others, let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One!"

N: The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him vinegar, and saying:

Spkrs: "If you are King of the Jews, save yourself!"

N: There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying:

S2: "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us."

N: But the other rebuked him, saying:

S3: "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly; for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong."

N: And he said,

S3: "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

N: And he said to him,

Jesus: "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

N: It was now about the sixth hour, and there was a darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, when the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said:

Jesus: "Abba, into thy hands I commit my spirit."

(The sixth candle is extinguished.)

N: And having said this, he breathed his last. Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God, and said:

S4: "Certainly this man was innocent!"

N: And all the multitudes who assembled to see the sight, when they saw what had taken place, returned home beating their breasts. And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance and saw these things.

Now there was a man named Joseph from the Jewish town of Arimathea. He was a member of the council, a good and righteous man, who had not consented to their purpose and deed, and he was looking for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down and wrapped it in a linen shroud, and laid him in a rock-hewn tomb, where no one had ever yet been laid. It was the day of Preparation, and the sabbath was beginning. The women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and saw the tomb, and how the body was laid; then then returned, and prepared spices and ointments.

On the sabbath day they rested according to the commandments.

(The seventh candle is extinguished.)

SPECIAL MUSIC Greg Adams

PRAYER FOR GOOD FRIDAY

O God, our God, you have not abandoned those who trusted in you. Your love has remained so strong that you gave up your only begotten to the death of the cross for us. By his blood our sins have been washed away, and we are able to come before you and sing your praises.

Lord Jesus, we know how you suffered on the cross and yet you offered your care for others. You asked that those who had crucified you might be forgiven. You forgave the penitent thief and cared for your mother. You gave up yourself that we might be redeemed from our sin. Because you gave up your life, we have life.

As you cared for others in your agony, so empower us by your Holy Spirit that we may care for one another in our well-being. Give us a mind to show our gratitude for your sacrifice by sacrificing ourselves in service to your people. Enable us to offer

courage to those who are frightened, strength to those who are weak, and joy to those who mourn.

Keep us steadfast in our devotion to you, as we give thanks for our salvation and anticipate that great day when you will receive our spirits. Hear us, we pray, for your holy Name's sake. Amen.

++CLOSING HYMN

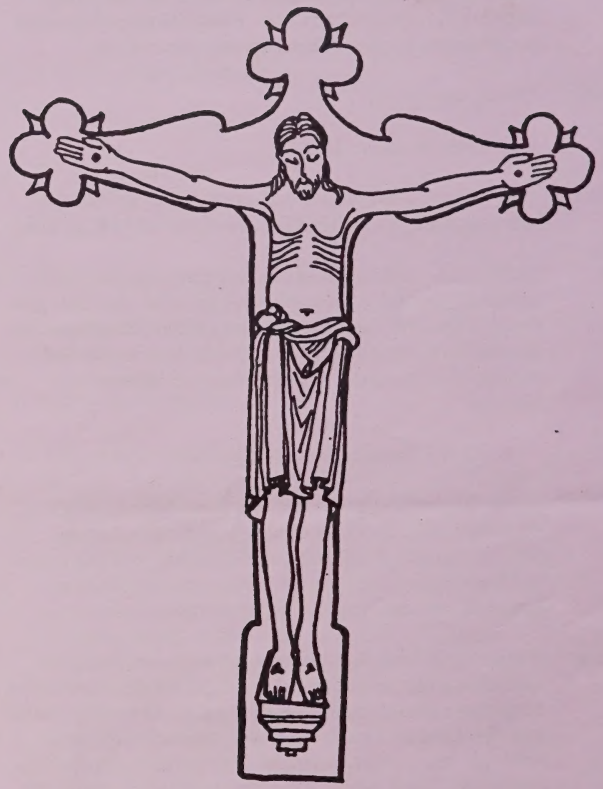
When I Survey the Wondrous Cross 258

++BENEDICTION

+ + + + +

WELCOME VISITORS! Your presence here this evening is a blessing for us! We hope you have received a blessing from the service and will consider making Covenant MCC your church home. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and drop it in the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve you. Welcome.

A Medieval German Crucifix
©C. E. Visminas



Covenant Metropolitan Community Church

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COVENANT METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor Susan Walker, Director of Music

Worship Coordinator/Tuscaloosa: Lee Rahe

In Clergy Formation: Andy Mullins, Greg Bullard

Evening Worship

September 3, 1995

7:00 p.m.

SINGSPIRATION

++CALL TO WORSHIP — Cal McCloskey

ONE: As a shepherd seeks a lost sheep, so God seeks and saves the lost.

MANY: Like a woman who searches for a lost coin until it is found, God rejoices over one soul restored to wholeness.

ONE: As a parent receives a returning wayward child, so God welcomes us and lets the past be the past.

MANY: Therefore let us praise God in thanksgiving that we are received. Let us rejoice over one another in the name of Jesus Christ.

++THE OPENING HYMN

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah — 608

++THE OPENING PRAYER — Rev. Ragona

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS — Mark Moore

HYMN OF CELEBRATION

My Tribute — 365

EVENING OFFERING — William

Offertory

++THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
O praise God, Alleluia.
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Praise Maker, Christ and Holy Ghost.
O praise God, O praise God.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURE

Ezekiel 34: 11-16
I Peter 2: 24-25
John 10: 1-18

SPECIAL MUSIC

THE SERMON — Richard Bar

What A Shepherd We Have

PRAYER AND MEDITATION — Rev. Rag

CHRIST'S PRAYER: "Our Creator, who art in heaven..."

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Words of Institution
Sharing of the Sacrament
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Communion is served both at the seats and at the altar; you may choose to be served at either place.
Note: Communion is served with nonalcoholic grape juice.
Please hold your empty communion cup until the basket is passed.
Please do not put it on the seat. Thank you.
Intercessors are available for prayer on each side of the altar.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us

++CLOSING HYMN

Make Me A Blessing

++OUR FAMILYSHIP CIRCLE

++THE BENEDICTION AND THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

++ Please stand as you are able.

Welcome

Visitors

Your presence here this evening is a real blessing for us! We hope you also recei a blessing from the service and will consider making CMCC your church home. Pl take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card (be sure to include your Zip Code) and c it into the offering plate when it is passed. Let us know how we can serve WELCOME!

ANNOUNCEMENTS
REGULAR EVENTS EACH WEEK

UNDAY

Sunday School for children and adults	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship and Children's Church	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship and Praise Service	7:00 p.m.

UESDAY

Choir Praise	6:30 p.m.

VEDNESDAY

Healing Distorted Images of God	7:00 p.m.
"The Abusive God"	

HURSDAY

Bible Study (Maps are available in the foyer)	7:00 p.m.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

)ur Building Fund now stands at $41,805. Those who made pledges should start their iving as soon as possible. Make your offering in the envelopes provided and mark it building fund."

/e have completed the first $2500 for the Cliff Morrison Memorial Apartment at Agape Iouse. Thanksgiving for all who participated. We will be presenting the check to Agape Iouse on September 10th at the evening service.

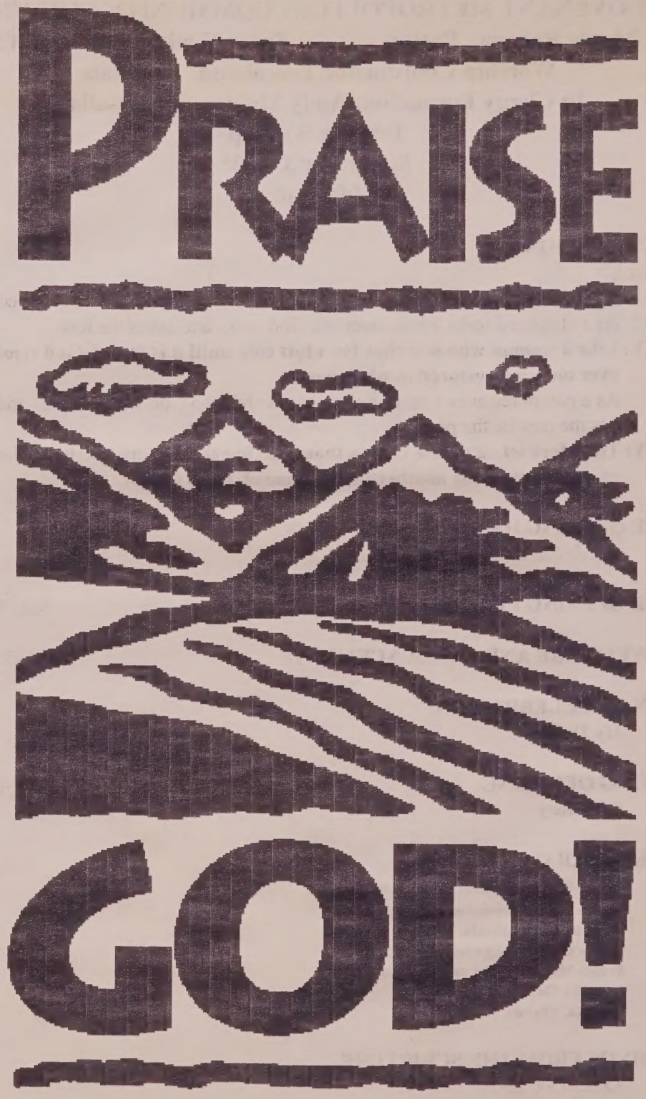
unday evening and Monday all day the pastor will be off duty. Enjoy your Labor Day oliday!!

uesday, September 5, 6:00 p.m. Planning for Rob Roberts Memorial Service. 6:30 Choir. :00 p.m. Council on Ministries meeting. Everyone is invited.

riday, September 8, 7:00 p.m. Memorial Service for Rob Roberts.

unday, September 10th is Member Appreciation Day, with recognition of members at the ıorning service. The pastor will be preparing a ham dinner (tickets $5.00 available in the)yer), and the new deacons will be dedicated. You are the church, come and help recognize ıose who have worked especially hard this year.

LC for CMCC!! Nancy U. and others are doing stress reduction massages and other ıeasures in the familyship hall following morning service. Come and get your back rubbed! Make an appointment with Nancy and the proceeds go to the building fund.)



Covenant Metropolitan Community Ch